

## 1992-1994



**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
My first job out of college was with United McGill in Grinnell. At that time the President of the Des Moines Chapter was a gentleman named Dennis Hogan. One day he came to our office in Grinnell and handed me two big cases that contained buttons of all of the members and told me I was now the Membership Chairman. I couldn't even spell ASHRAE let alone know what it was about.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE has influenced me in two ways, education and networking. The monthly seminars have expanded my knowledge on many different topics that I would not normally seek out. The networking has allowed me to establish some lifelong friendships in the business. It is always easier to do business with people that you know.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
The night the chapter was chartered and the ASHRAE Society President told us that this was the first new chapter in many years.

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved and stay active. The more you get involved the more you find out what ASHRAE is really about.

**Gary Lange**  
Iowa State University  
Sales Engineer - Control Installations of Iowa

## 1994-1995



**Russell L. Allen**  
University of Arkansas  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Engineer - Colony Heating and Air Conditioning

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
My first boss, Paul Chaffin, at ACI Mechanical in Des Moines, IA encouraged me to join ASHRAE (Central Iowa Chapter) for marketing purposes.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
I would be remiss if I didn't also mention the many good friendships I've known over the years as a result of my ASHRAE membership. I've met many contractors, vendors, other engineers, and even architects who also were members. Some of the guys/gals have retired or moved away and some have died. But I still meet with some of those who are still around for a meal and conversation outside of ASHRAE. As a result of our knowing each other in ASHRAE we found it beneficial to working together on projects as well.

**How have you had an influence?**  
Have the courage to challenge the "party line". Just because some says, "Believe me, I know what I'm talking about." That doesn't mean they do know. Challenge them to prove it with facts and then study the facts. I've had college PhDs present factual info but attribute it to the wrong conclusions. When challenged they had to admit their conclusion wasn't the only reasonable conclusion, but rather the conclusion they'd chosen to accept. Refrigerant effects on Global Warming and Ozone Layer Depletion are just two subjects where this happened.

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved and stay active. The more you get involved the more you find out what ASHRAE is really about.

## 1995-1996



**Mike Brocka**  
Iowa State University  
Principal - MODUS

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
I don't quite remember but it could have been "The Founders" - Gary Lange, Russ Allen, Ann Rosenthal, Wes Boothe, Kevin Hupp, Gary Sundell, Loren Likes, and others that I'm probably forgetting. We all encouraged each other to get involved.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
I refer to the ASHRAE standards on regular basis. Because of these standards, our society has high performing, comfortable, and safe buildings. ASHRAE is a great resource for PDHs

**How have you had an influence?**  
In 1991, a small group, 11 call "The Founders" decided to break away from the Iowa Chapter and form an eastern Iowa ASHRAE chapter (Cedar Valley) to better serve engineers and equipment vendors. It took about a year to submit the documentation and the chapter was chartered in 1992.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
The reason why Gary Lange was president for two years was I wanted to be a PE before becoming President. Good thing I put in April that year or Gary would have been president for another year.

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved. I understand life balance is difficult but Cedar Valley ASHRAE is needed for Eastern Iowa engineers and equipment vendors.

## 1996-1997



**Ann Rosenthal**  
University of Iowa B.S.  
Northwestern University M.S.  
Associate Director - University of Iowa Facilities Management

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Ron Johnson, former head of mechanical engineering at Shive-Hattery in CR, where I initially became involved and help start the Cedar Valley chapter.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE helped me both technically, with all the educational opportunities, and professionally, networking with numerous building professionals across Iowa.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Pizza planning meetings at the JCI office in CR.

## 2000-2001



**Loren Likes**  
Western Iowa Tech  
Senior Facilities Engineer  
Rockwell Collins

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Several - Many outstanding individuals such as, Russ Allen, the late Gary Sundell & John Brown, Gary Lange, Kevin Hupp, Wes Boothe, Dean Jackson, and Steve Jennerjohn.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
**Personally** - Always a pleasure and honor to collaborate with fellow Cedar Valley Chapter members, then and now. Great to see that the Chapter is still thriving with young Engineers getting involved. Allowing me to get involved.  
**Professionally** - Allowing me to keep abreast with current ASHRAE events, attending CRC Conventions, attending ASHRAE Product Shows, able to utilize ASHRAE Handbooks in Design of HVAC System, and attending Chapter meetings and/or Lunch & Learn meetings to discuss various topics in the industry.

**What advice can you share?**  
"Everyday you live is a Special Day, as bad as it may seem at times, but everyday is a Wonderful Day because you make it wonderful. Make every day count! Appreciate every moment of every day and take from those moments everything it has to offer, for you may never be able to experience it again. Hold your head up high for you have every right to. Tell yourself you are a great individual that you can make a difference. Believe in yourself, for if you don't it is hard for others to believe in you. Be a Role Model - Be a Leader, make a difference in someone else's life. You never know what tomorrow brings or has in store for you. Remember tomorrow is promised to NO ONE."  
- WALTER PAYTON

## 1999-2000



**Gary Sundell**

As is evidenced by the words on this page, Gary had a profound effect on the members of the Cedar Valley Chapter. Unfortunately for us, Gary has since passed away, but will always be remembered. Whether it's for being a Rockwell Collins employee, encouraging all to meet to join ASHRAE, or the fact that he loved desserts! Rest in peace, Gary.

## 1998-1999



**Kevin Hupp**  
Mount Mercy  
Owner  
Hupp Electric Motors & Toyotalift

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Gary Lange.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE gave me a new appreciation for our basic comforts in everyday life that we take for granted. It was a very educational experience.

**How have you had an influence?**  
I can mention that everyone working together, we did have some nice accomplishments. We started a scholarship program for the area students. We put together the Chapter's first website. The Chapter was able to send its first check to ASHRAE Research Promotion (RP) that exceeded \$5,000. Finally, we had fun.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Gary Lange and myself meeting Brett Favre and Mark Chmura.

**What advice can you share?**  
Keep it going for another 25 years.

## 1997-1998



**Wesley Boothe**  
President  
Modern Control Services

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
My father, George Boothe, took me to my first AHR show in Atlanta, GA, back in 1988 or 1989.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE has always given me insight and education that I would not have had access to without that affiliation. Personally, over the years I have made many professional acquaintances. In turn many of those acquaintances have developed into great friendships that I enjoy today.

**How have you had an influence?**  
As one of the "founding" members of the CV chapter, I recruited, coerced and encouraged many to join our chapter and they in turn went on to serve locally in the CV Chapter.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Serving as the General Chairperson for the 2003 CRC. It was a lot of work by all committees and that hard work and dedication resulted in a great event!

**What advice can you share?**  
Don't just join, get involved, and serve in some capacity.

## 2001-2002



**Steve Jennerjohn**  
Iowa State University  
University of Iowa

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
I probably received encouragement to participate in ASHRAE from the senior engineers at HLM Engineers, such as John Brown and John Bollinger. This would have been back in the early 1980s although I attended only occasional meetings each year with the chapters in Des Moines and the Quad Cities. Many years later Gary Lange was instrumental in founding the Cedar Rapids chapter and I immediately joined that chapter.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
Participation in ASHRAE activities was beneficial to my career. I was able to receive quite a bit of technical knowledge from the various events and, just as important, I was able to make contacts who were useful in keeping up with what was occurring in our industry locally.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Many of my memories of ASHRAE events were from the various CRCs. However, the very best memories involve other Cedar Valley ASHRAE members and some of their questionable activities at these conventions. These memories probably should not be put down in a written form.

**What advice can you share?**  
Local consulting firms have varying levels of support for their employees to participate in ASHRAE. I would recommend that members encourage their employer to provide as strong of support as possible to enable their staff to be active at a local level in ASHRAE.

## 2002-2003



**Julia Keen**  
ASHRAE FELLOW  
Kansas State University  
Associate Professor  
Keen Designs, PA

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
I received an ASHRAE student scholarship and was involved in the KSU ASHRAE chapter. Mike Brocka took me to my first CV chapter meeting. Richard Hayter nominated for my first society level committee.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
I often share that becoming involved with ASHRAE is the most important thing I have done for my career. I met some of my dearest friends through ASHRAE both at the chapter and society level. The year following my term as CV Chapter President (when we hosted the Region VI CRC) moved to Kansas to take a faculty position. My local Kansas Chapter is 2+ hours away and hosts primarily lunch meetings therefore making the same level of participation impossible. This is when I started to serve at the society level. I have had the opportunity to serve on many different committees including as a Director-at-Large on the Board of Directors and will be on the ballot this spring as an ASHRAE VP.

**ASHRAE helped me overcome my fear of speaking in public.** My first chapter meeting as President I remember having my note cards ready and stumbling through the announcements. It was this environment and practice that has gotten me to a point where speaking to an audience is no longer a stress but something I enjoy - therefore, the reason I am now an ASHRAE distinguished lecturer.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Oh, there are so many! Winning the women's longest drive at CV golf outing (often there was not much competition), the chapter being awarded the silver gavel award at the 2003 CRC we hosted, the van ride from Waterloo to Iowa City when we would get a group of us to car pool together (thanks to Jack Meyers allowing us to use his van - you learned real quick to declare that you were not the designated driver home).

## 2003-2004



**Tom Below**  
Iowa State University  
Design Engineer  
NextEra Energy  
Duane Arnold Energy Center

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Encouraged may be a bit weak of a term. Wes Boothe told me that I was going to be involved in ASHRAE, or I would be fired. That may be his actual quote, but I don't think he was serious (especially since he wasn't my boss...yet). He did make a set of golf clubs for me, so that I wouldn't look completely incompetent at the Annual ASHRAE golf outings (it didn't help).

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
It provided an excellent opportunity to network with professionals in the area. The presentations (especially the distinguished lecturers) provided excellent on-going training that was not only useful, but in many cases expanded my horizons. Many of my references required to obtain my Professional Engineering License were fellow ASHRAE members. Without the close friendships developed with engineers from other firms, I may not have gotten the chance to become licensed.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
There are so many memories. From meetings in the Amana Colonies, to the CRC in La Crosse, to the Cassidy Shack type antics during the golf outings. The fondest memories though were working closely with members to host the CRC around 2003. Although stressful at times, it was a close introduction to many great people. This culminated with Jim Antill nearly spewing his drink in the elevator after the last CRC seminar.

**What advice can you share?**  
Go all in. It may seem like there's never enough time for extra commitments, but you gain so much more than you put in, which means the more you put in, the more you get out.

## 2004-2006



**Dan Dennis**  
Kirkwood Community College  
University of Northern Iowa  
Sales  
DPT Mechanical

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Wes Boothe

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
Knowledge, Community, Networking & Friendships

**What is your most fond memory?**  
CRC - Cedar Rapids - Casino Night

**What advice can you share?**  
Great Organization, GET INVOLVED

## 2009-2010



**Ben A'Hearn**  
Iowa State University  
Engineering Service Manager - USDA

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
When I was in going to school at Iowa State University the local ASHRAE chapter had a student chapter at ISU. One of our professors who taught the HVAC Design courses at ISU recommended that we all attend the student chapter meeting. This started me off. I then took a job at Design Engineers at Cedar Rapids and the staff there all attended ASHRAE meetings so it was pretty easy for me to continue my ASHRAE involvement. The rest was history.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE has opened up many different personal relationships personally and professionally in which I still have connections with. I've developed very good friendships with individuals along the way due to attending regular meetings and going to ASHRAE outings with individuals. These personal friendships have allowed me to create more connections on the professional side of things which have made it easier for me to continue my career. Attending ASHRAE meetings and events has helped me maintain my necessary certifications for my Professional Engineering License.

**What advice can you share?**  
Stay Involved! It will only help you in the long run. The type of connections you'll make and maintain through ASHRAE will help you with your future endeavors.

## 2008-2009



**Eric Granzow**  
MSOE  
Chief Mechanical Engineer  
Specialized Engineering Solutions

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Wade Ross, my first mentor.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
The networking and continuing education opportunities are endless and the certifications help you stand out from your peers.

**How have you made an influence?**  
I have always encouraged fellow engineers to be involved and be at meetings. Most recently, I have become more involved in the technical side of ASHRAE on TC 09.06 and SSPC 170.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
CRC in Region VI was always a blast, especially the group from Des Moines.

**What advice can you share?**  
Be active and to quote the current ASHRAE President Tim Wentz "be in the room". Being involved and active in community activities, whether it is ASHRAE or any other organization is vital to being a respected and contributing member of the engineering community and allows the opportunity to help shape the future.

## 2007-2008



**Justin Marxen**  
Iowa State University  
Associate Principal  
Design Engineers, P. C.

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
I first got involved my senior of college, so when I started at Design Engineers I became an official member. I can remember Dan Dennis and Wes Boothe encouraging me to get involved in a cabinet position, so I started as secretary and worked my way up.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
Being involved in leadership roles as a cabinet member early in my career, especially president, was a great learning experience and practice in managing people and events, which has benefited my career. The continuous education opportunities and reference material such as the ASHRAE handbooks have also been instrumental in learning and advancing my knowledge in the field of HVAC.

**How have you made an influence?**  
When I was president, we struggled a bit with attendance and participation, so made an effort to try and think of ways to improve. We tried incorporating an occasional lunch meeting to boost attendance.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
I went to the ASHRAE CRC in Madison in 2007 (I think), was a lot of fun and got to meet a lot of people and learn a lot about ASHRAE. Annual golf outings are always fun too!

**What advice can you share?**  
Don't be afraid to get involved in a cabinet position - the time commitment is not as much as it may seem, and it is a great way to network and develop leadership skills.

## 2006-2007



**Kelly Stark**  
Iowa State University  
Energy Engineer  
University of Northern Iowa

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Too many to count! But mainly Jim Antill and Wes Boothe. Also, working at Johnson Controls at the time - it was sort of a given that you had to join!

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
The education that ASHRAE provided me through the trade shows, monthly presentations, as well as the ability to network with technology, practices, codes are out there and changing, and being part of ASHRAE is a great way to be in the know.

**How have you made an influence?**  
While I was an officer, I was hired on at Design Engineers and was able to get the engineers there more involved in ASHRAE.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
I have a lot of fond memories of ASHRAE, but one that sticks out is winning a golf bag at CRC!

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved. That advice is good as a college student as well as a practicing engineer. In our field it is best to know what technology, practices, codes are out there and changing, and being part of ASHRAE is a great way to be in the know.

## 2010-2011



**Justin Opperman**  
Iowa State University  
Design Engineer II  
Mayo Clinic

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
The leadership of Design Engineers.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
It grounded me professionally into the industry as a whole, so I wasn't some lone ranger somewhere coming up with my own wacky ideas. It provided a tremendous resource of scientific, research-based data by which to design.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Attending CRCs with friends and coworkers from the Cedar Valley Chapter and Iowa Chapter was a highlight. Although hosting the CRC as the Cedar Valley Chapter was quite an undertaking, the hog roast was another highlight.

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved, especially if your employer will sponsor it. If they don't currently sponsor your involvement, ask them to do so, if they say no, keep asking. The benefits should be tangible enough to make an easy argument.

## 2011-2012



**Adam Bunnell**  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Project Engineer  
Design Engineers, P.C.

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Dutch Usefson - Lennox Industries

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
Allowed me to get a larger professional networking group.

**How have you had an influence?**  
Pushed our local chapter to be a little less formal, meetings at restaurants rather than seminar rooms. Encouraged people within Design Engineers to join.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
CRC

**What advice can you share?**  
Use the meetings as an opportunity to talk to others in our field.

## 2012-2013



**Jared Ramthun**  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Project Engineer  
Design Engineers, P. C.

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Justin Opperman asked if I would become the chapter secretary prior to even starting employment at Design Engineers.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
It has helped me to network with people from many different backgrounds and companies. I have learned a lot from the many different technical presentations, including some things that I wouldn't have pursued learning about on my own. This has expanded by knowledge base to help me become a better engineer.

**How have you made an influence?**  
Probably the main influence I had was to help keep the chapter going (with pressure from the Region) at a time when it was at risk of dissolving prior to the 2014 CRC.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Helping to organize the CRC in 2014 was a challenging, yet good memory. The best part was hearing how much the attendees and speakers raved about the event.

**What advice can you share?**  
Get involved early in your career. Meeting others in the local industry is invaluable as you learn what engineering is all about. Having a network of resources and knowledge will only serve to help you as you advance in your career.

## 2013-2014



**Dusty Beenen**  
Iowa State University  
Sales Engineer  
DPT Mechanical

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Dr. Maxwell at ISU

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
I have personally grown through my involvement in ASHRAE both personally and professionally. Personally, I have developed great friendships that will endure well beyond my professional career. On the professional side, ASHRAE has allowed me to peer into all aspects of our industry. It offers great opportunities to share in project discussions, what is working and what isn't.

**How have you made an influence?**  
I believe that I have shown that no matter how you are involved in ASHRAE, everything helps. You don't need to be a tenured regional to have positive influence on your chapter.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
CRCs...all of them. I have brought much away from CRCs professionally, but more importantly, I have gained a great deal of friendships by being a them.

**What advice can you share?**  
Take the time to be involved. Our chapter is one of the most laid back you can be part of, and everyone is treated as a trusted part of the team. You will get much more out of ASHRAE than you'd expect, if you participate and engage.

## 2016-2017



**Ryan Bunnell**  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Engineer  
Design Engineers, P.C.

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Greg Maxwell way back at ISU.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
It has shown how many people go into a successful project, and being able to meet the different contributors in a non-project atmosphere helps to understand the difficulties everyone has to deal with to make a successful project.

**How have you had an influence?**  
Hopefully to show meetings can be informative as well as helping people maintain their license.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Where to start? Surfing with Brian Soukup at a Winter Conference in Florida, getting "stranded" in Vegas with Roger and Jared Bartel, and most recently making some hopefully lasting friendships while planning CV's last CRC.

**What advice can you share?**  
Don't be afraid to put "your" spin on things. ASHRAE is a society run by its members, all the way down to the Chapter level. If there is something you feel strongly about, take it and run with it. Who knows, someone may be remembering what you started 25 years later!

## 2015-2016



**Jeremy Huisman**  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Engineer  
Shive-Hattery

**Who Encouraged you to Join ASHRAE?**  
Roger Leshar "volunteered" me to be on the BOS of the Iowa Chapter.

**How has ASHRAE influenced your career?**  
ASHRAE really helped me connect with individuals at other firms, and broaden my horizons past the coworkers that I saw everyday. Hearing how other engineers approached similar problems differently was very beneficial, especially in a neutral environment, as opposed to simply having interactions with "competitors".

**How have you made an influence?**  
While I didn't carry the torch to bring back the Cedar Valley scholarship program, I hope I'll hit the fire for Jose Chappell to spearhead something that contributes to the area we live and work in.

**What is your most fond memory?**  
Where to start? Surfing with Brian Soukup at a Winter Conference in Florida, getting "stranded" in Vegas with Roger and Jared Bartel, and most recently making some hopefully lasting friendships while planning CV's last CRC.

**What advice can you share?**  
Don't be afraid to put "your" spin on things. ASHRAE is a society run by its members, all the way down to the Chapter