



Historical Committee

Sunday, June 25, 2023

Tampa FL

Minutes

Attendance

Members: Nissun Feiner-Chair, Thomas Pollard, Norman Grusnick, Andrew Pearson (absent), Olu Soluade, Wei Sun, Arthur Giesler, Dunstan Macauley (absent)

Guests: Bern Nagengast, Spenser Morasch, Greg Schnable, Fabio Clavijo, Randy Schrecengost

1. Call to Order

Mr. Feiner called the meeting to order at 8:13 am.

2. Code of Ethics and Values Commitment

Mr. Feiner read the ASHRAE Code of Ethics and Values Commitment aloud to the committee.

Code of Ethics

In this and all other 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 we shall avoid all real or perceived conflicts of interests.

Core Values

Excellence

ASHRAE education, technical information and all other activities and products will always reflect the best practices that lead our industry. We strive for continuous improvement and innovation in all our practices and products.

Commitment

ASHRAE and its members are passionate about serving the built environment, creating value, and recognizing the accomplishments of others.

Integrity

ASHRAE is committed to the highest ethical standards. We work transparently, observing essential requirements for due process and peer reviews to assure our members and stakeholders that we do the right things the right way.

Collaboration

ASHRAE seeks and embraces collaborative efforts with organizations, agencies, and individuals sharing our commitment to sustainable built environments.

Volunteerism

Members lead ASHRAE at every level, serving ASHRAE and helping ASHRAE serve society.

Diversity

ASHRAE is committed to providing a welcoming environment. Our culture is one of inclusiveness, acknowledging the inherent value and dignity of each individual.

(Code of Ethics: <https://www.ashrae.org/about/governance/code-of-ethics>)

(Core Values: <https://www.ashrae.org/about/ashrae-s-core-values>)

3. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI):

Mr. Feiner read the ASHRAE Diversity, Equity & Inclusion statement aloud to the committee.

ASHRAE is committed to providing a welcoming environment. Our culture is one of inclusiveness, acknowledging the inherent value and dignity of everyone. We proactively pursue and 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 people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, physical appearance, thought styles, religion, nationality, socioeconomic status, belief systems, sexual orientation, or education.

4. Introduction of Committee Members and Visitors

Committee Members & Guests introduce themselves.

5. Review of Agenda

Mr. Feiner reviewed the agenda with committee members. After some discussion, it was moved and seconded:

(1) Approved additions to the Historical Committee Meeting Agenda.

Background: Mr. Giesler, Mr. Schnable and Mr. Morasch brought additional reports to Historical Committee.

Fiscal Impact: None.

MOTION (1) Approved 4-0-0, CNV

6. BOD ExO report

Mr. Giesler presented the committee with BOD ExO report.

7. Approval of Minutes

(2) Approved Historical Committee Meeting Minutes from ASHRAE Annual Conference June 26, 2022, Toronto, Canada.

Background: Historical Committee Meeting Minutes were distributed and posted to Basecamp.

Fiscal Impact: None.

MOTION (2) Approved 4-0-0, CNV

(3) Approved Historical Committee Meeting Minutes from ASHRAE Winter Conference February 5, 2023, Atlanta, GA.

Background: Historical Committee Meeting Minutes were distributed and posted to Basecamp.

Fiscal Impact: None.

MOTION (3) Approved 4-0-0, CNV

An action item was assigned to staff post these approved minutes to the Historical Committee page of the ASHRAE website. (**ACTION ITEM 1**) *Completed. (June 26, 2023)*

8. Review Action Items

Mr. Feiner reviewed the Action Items from the last committee meeting.

No.	Responsible	Action Item
1	Staff	Send out email ballot to Approve Historical Committee Minutes before Tampa Annual Meeting in June 2023. <i>Complete.</i>
2	Staff	Renumber approved updated Historical Committee MBOs, distribute to committee members and post to Basecamp before Tampa Annual Meeting in June 2023. <i>Complete. Attachment B (old version) & Attachment C (updated version)</i>

9. Historical Subcommittees

9.1 **Administrative/Archives**: Norman Grusnick – Chair,
Members: Norman Grusnick / Atilla Biyikoglu / S. Morasch (ExO)

No update.

9.2 **Communications/Regional Historian Guidelines:** Niss Feiner – Chair,
Members: Niss Feiner / Wei Sun / Spencer Morasch (ExO)

Mr. Feiner reported video newsletters that were sent to Regional Historians and some virtual meetings were held over the last society year. Historical Members agreed that the general perception has improved with respect to communication between the committee and regional historians. Mr. Feiner asked that the committee continue these activities in the next year.

Mr. Morasch reported that his region also puts out a monthly newsletter. Mr. Clavijo reported that Region 12 requested and received items on history from each of the countries in that region and posted them to their region's Basecamp. Mr. Feiner asked that Mr. Clavijo post those to the Historical Committee Basecamp as well.

9.3 **Awards/Leadership Voices:** Niss Feiner – Chair,
Members: Niss Feiner / Robert Pollard / Spencer Morasch (ExO)

Mr. Schrecengost reminded the committee members of the criteria for submissions and that submissions can be made at any time through the year.

Lou Flagg Submission Requirements

The Lou Flagg Historical Award recognizes the vital role historians play in identifying and preserving the accomplishments of its members and the industry. It is presented at the Society annual meeting to the individual who prepares the most outstanding historical presentation nominated during the current society year. Nominations may be submitted yearly from each region. In addition, a member of the Society Historical Committee may also nominate other members of the Society who have prepared historical presentations that fall within the definition of historical significance as described below. The nominations must be submitted to Society headquarters by December 1 of the current Society year for consideration. Presentations in electronic format are required.

The person who prepares the presentation that receives the most points from the nominations submitted and is considered of a quality acceptable for the award, as judged by the Historical committee, shall be recommended to the Honors and Awards Committee to be the recipient of the award. Criteria for determining the award recipient are as follows:

- Historical Significance (35 points)
- Quality of Presentation (25points)
- Innovation (20 points)
- Photographs (20 points)

Historical Significance: The presentation may be on a person, company, project, event, system or object invented or created that is of historic value or significantly contributed to the advancement of the HVAC&R industry. The relevance of the historical value or significance shall be clearly addressed.

Innovation: The depth to which the individual went, during the information gathering process, to locate and to identify the information should be emphasized. Projects should describe the facts pertaining to the preparation of the article.

Photographs: The utilization of photos or illustrations in the submittal should enhance the presentation. All photos should be identified (who, what, when, where and why).

Quality of Presentation: Presentation should be logical, concise, and effective with significant features clearly highlighted. It should have simple to read system schematics or charts and easy to follow series of photos. A presentation in electronic format is required.

Mr. Feiner assigned an action item to staff to request a list of Yellow Ribbon recipients and post this to the Historical Committee's Basecamp. **(ACTION ITEM 2)**

Mr. Feiner assigned an action item to Mr. Pollard to distribute the Yellow Ribbon recipients list to the regional historians as a reminder to encourage more Lou Flagg Award submissions. **(ACTION ITEM 3)**

Mr. Feiner assigned an action item to Mr. Pollard to post to the Historical Committee Basecamp the new 2023-2024 POAE list as soon as it is available. **(ACTION ITEM 4)**

Mr. Feiner reminded the committee members that the ASHRAE videographer staff position was eliminated, and that future Leadership Interviews will need to be recorded, edited, and transcribed by Historical Committee members. Mr. Feiner has discussed possible interviews being done on the ASHRAE Journal Podcast with Journal staff.

Mr. Nagengast commented that, in the past, Historical Committee would use the list of Honors and Awards recipients for possible Leadership Interviews.

Mr. Feiner assigned an action item to Mr. Pollard to use the list of Honors and Awards recipients for possible Leadership Interviews in the future. **(ACTION ITEM 5)**

Mr. Schrecengost mentioned he had a list of historically significant people, places, concepts and events that he uses to write historical articles for his region. Mr. Feiner requested Mr. Schrecengost post that list to the Historical Committee Basecamp. **(ACTION ITEM 6)**

Mr. Nagengast mentioned a similar list in the book *The Comfort Makers* by Brian Roberts and published by ASHRAE.

(Secretary's Note: From the ASHRAE Bookstore - 2001 The Comfort Makers by Brian Roberts, An entertaining tour of the history of heating, ventilating, air-conditioning and refrigeration, told through the stories of over 270 HVAC&R pioneers who have contributed to knowledge in the field over two millennia. Arranged as a series of mini-biographies with over 100 portraits and some 40 contemporary illustrations and advertisements, The Comfort Makers is a great addition to any HVAC&R library. ISBN 1883413842)

10. Historical Committee MBOs

MBO #1 - Establish and maintain a continuous line of communication between Society Historical Committee and Regional/Chapter Historians using via electronic communications (ie. Loom, email etc) with regular updates including:

- Upcoming historical activities, or dates of historical significance to ASHRAE/HVACR Industry.
- POAE Update Summary.
- Updates to Historical Training Materials (CRC Powerpoints, etc)

- Remind and Encourage submissions for Chapter Historian Gold Ribbon Award & Lou Flagg Historical Award.
- Society Historical Committee volunteer positions/needs.
- Updates on Historical Committee business.
- Encourage Regional & Chapter historians to engage with society Historical committee.

As previously reported, Mr. Feiner reported video newsletters that were sent to Regional Historians and some virtual meetings were held over the last society year.

Complete.

MBO #2 - Develop PAOE Recommended Changes to 2022-2023 Society Year PAOE.

Mr. Feiner submitted requested changes to the PAOE for the Historical Committee.

Complete.

MBO #3 - Encourage younger members of ASHRAE to have interest in history-related activities of the Society.

Mr. Feiner proposed keeping the PAOE line item "For a local Chapter Historical activity performed by an actively engaged YEA member". Reference 2021-2022 PAOE Newsletter - Tag# YEA8 (under YEA)

Complete.

MBO #4 - Identify volunteers to act as committee liaison with the following society committees:

- Membership Promotion
- Young Engineers in ASHRAE
- Student Activities

Mr. Schnable reported as Membership Promotion (MP) Liaison for Historical Committee he attended the 6/24/23 MP committee meeting and discuss collaborating.

Introductory summary to the MP Committee from 2/23/23:

Our goal for the Historical Committee, Regional Historians & Chapter Historians is to take a more active role in supporting the MP, YEA & Student Activity Chairs with ASHRAE's mission. History is an excellent vehicle to show young engineers and ASHRAE Members of the great advances in the arts and sciences of HVAC that have been made, inspire Members to join Society and its technical or standing committees to further this goal. Further, it provides a historical context for modern debates like those that we saw come up from the pandemic, IAQ, decarbonization, climate change, etc. We would like to see more events at the Chapter and Regional level that leverage the Historical Committee & Chairs as part of their regular planning. Instead of having one night a year devoted for a history theme, this integrates history in all our efforts. As an example, if there are nights where the discussion is indoor air quality it can be mentioned that IAQ has been known about for well over a hundred years and how our understanding has evolved to modern standards. For topics like decarbonization or climate change, we think its helpful to discuss items like the Montreal Protocol.

Also, a PowerPoint slide 1st draft for MP & Historical Centralized Training & PET was created & sent to MP Committee on 2/23/23.

Mr. Morasch suggested Mr. Schnable PowerPoint slide 1st Attachment E should be included the Historical CRC PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Schrecengost suggested including Attachment E to a YEA presentation. Mr. Nagengast suggested adding it to the Historian's Guide.

On-going.

MBO #5 - Foster collaboration with other international societies to improve our historical research and support history-related activities of the Society.

Mr. Morasch was successful in getting PEC to approve the proposal and funding got the project pending legal approval.

- The Engineering and Technology History Wiki (ETHW) is a website powered by [MediaWiki](#) with thousands of articles, firsthand accounts, oral histories, milestones, archival documents and lesson plans pertaining to the history of technology. The ETHW is one of the world's premier sites for the documentation, analysis, and explanation of the history of technology; the scientists, and engineers who made these technologies happen; and on the history of the organizations to which these men and women belonged.

The ETHW is developed by a partnership between the [United Engineering Foundation](#), and the AIAA, AIChE, AIME, ASCE, ASME, IEEE, SPE and SWE. It fosters the creation of narratives that not only document the history of engineering practices but also explain when, how, and why these technologies developed as they did. It uses a wiki-based web platform to foster a collaborative online environment that taps into the collective memories, experiences, and knowledge of engineering's worldwide membership – the men and women who provide the imagination, creativity, and know-how to sustain engineering progress and technological innovation. In time, this site will serve as a central historical repository of all the achievements, ideas, and first-hand knowledge of engineering association members, societies, councils, and technical communities. The ETHW will also provide a central location for all materials related to engineering's organizational history.

Although the contributions to this site are restricted to registered users, the ETHW is also dedicated to making the social, economic, political, and technical aspects of the history of technology accessible to all. The public is invited to explore and learn about the history of the technologies that have shaped and will continue to shape their lives.

The ETHW is not a "how-does-technology-work" site. The scope of the ETHW is historical; instead of focusing on the inner workings of technology, it aims to explain how the technology was developed, who were the major players involved, and what long term significance the technologies have. The ETHW is not only an encyclopedia of the history of technology, but it also contains a full range of materials that relate to the legacy of engineering, including personal accounts, documents, and multimedia objects. In that sense, it is a combination reference guide, blog, virtual archive, and on-line community.

This site is intended to be the premier global record for preserving and interpreting the history of technological innovation and making that history available to the public. The wiki-based ETHW enables the recording of first-hand experiences of people around the world who have developed technologies' products and services into the globally accessible public record. The ETHW will raise the public visibility of the role and historical contributions of engineers, and related professionals in enhancing the quality of life and the global environment.

Unlike other on-line encyclopedias that may include technological topics, the ETHW will be solely focused on the history of technology. The ETHW's content will also be unique. No other wiki site offers the personal accounts of the technical innovators themselves. In other words, this site serves as a living testament to all the important experiences and contributions made by members and others to technological progress from around the globe. As such, the site will never be complete — it will grow and expand continually. It is the mission of the ETHW to be a forum for the community of engineers and innovators, and those who study their work, a networked repository of their memories, knowledge and achievements, a place to share and explore the history of technological innovation.

The ETHW enables its members to record their involvement in technological innovation. Through these First-hand Histories, [the ETHW invites and encourages members to share their experiences in developing products and services](#) -- from invention, R&D, design, testing, production and commercialization -- with the world. Ideally these recollections will also include the broader range of experiences that led to members' successes as professionals, including their inspirations, educations, and affiliations. Because of the wiki functionality, the ETHW also enables individuals to contribute their experiences as contributors to a collective First-hand History of a group, such as an R&D lab or design team within a university or corporation.

The committee members discussed the proposal and status of the agreement. Mr. Feiner suggested some social media promotions when it is finally approved. It was suggested that all promotion should include an active hyperlink to the site.

Historical Committee members discussed other groups that the committee may want to collaborate with, and the following suggestions were named:

- The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers is an educational and scientific organization dedicated to the advancement of engineering applicable to agricultural, food, and biological systems. Founded in 1907 and headquartered in St. Joseph, Michigan, ASABE comprises members in more than 100 countries.
Agricultural, food, and biological engineers develop efficient and environmentally sensitive methods of producing food, fiber, timber, and renewable energy sources for an ever-increasing world population. The image above provides a profile of ASABE's membership and their contributions to society.
- The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) creates multiple standards and technical manuals, addressing all facets of the engineering, construction & HVAC sheet metal business, from duct construction and installation to air pollution control and energy recovery.
- The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) promotes the art, science & practice of multidisciplinary engineering and allied sciences around the globe. ASME helps the global engineering community develop solutions to real world challenges. Founded in 1880 as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, produces codes and standards, publications, conferences, continuing education, and professional development programs provide a foundation for advancing technical knowledge and a safer world. In 2020, ASME formed the International Society of Interdisciplinary Engineers (ISIE) LLC, a new for-profit subsidiary to house business ventures that will bring new and innovative products, services, and technologies to the engineering community, and later established the holding company, Global Knowledge Solutions LLC. In 2021, ASME launched a second for-profit subsidiary, Metrix Connect LLC, an industry events and content platform to accelerate digital transformation in the engineering community.

- The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) is the professional body that exists to advance and promote the art, science, and practice of building services engineering, to invest in education and research, and to support our community of built environment professionals in their pursuit of excellence.

Mr. Feiner also mentioned there are Indigenous Peoples organizations in Toronto that the committee might want to work with in the future.

On-going.

MBO #6 - Leadership Recall - Arrange for videos at Winter Conference.

As discussed previously, the ASHRAE videographer staff position was eliminated, and future Leadership Interviews will need to be recorded, edited, and transcribed by Historical Committee members. ASHRAE Journal Podcast staff may be able to assist Historical Committee.

Historical Committee could use the list of Honors and Awards recipients for possible Leadership Interviews suggestions.

Mr. Morasch has offered to edit future Leadership videos and Mr. Feiner offered to transcribe videos for the ASHRAE website.

Mr. Grusnick suggested talking to the several people in Region 10 that are having their 75th anniversary as ASHRAE members.

Mr. Feiner will discuss contracting for video editing, transcription in the future, as well as funding at the PEC Products Subcommittee and PEC Planning Subcommittee meetings on June 26, 2023.

On-going.

MBO #7 - Digitize Archived Journals and Transactions.

This is an MBO is an on-going project.

On-going.

MBO #8 - Historical Committee Newsletter - Resume publishing a newsletter for the target audience of Regional & Chapter Historians.

This is an MBO is an on-going project.

On-going.

11. Old Business

11.1 Carnot Anniversary

The 200th Anniversary of the paper describing the cycle by Sadi Carnot is this year.

The Carnot cycle is an ideal thermodynamic cycle proposed by French physicist Sadi Carnot in 1824 and expanded upon by others in the 1830s and 1840s.

By Carnot's theorem, it provides an upper limit on the efficiency of any classical thermodynamic engine during the conversion of heat into work, or conversely, the efficiency of a refrigeration system in creating a temperature difference through the application of work to the system. In a Carnot cycle, a system or engine transfers energy in the form of heat between two thermal reservoirs at temperatures.

Mr. Feiner suggested to Mr. Schnable, Historical Committee Liaison to Membership Promotion Committee, that the Carnot anniversary may be an opportunity to collaborate with activities they may be planning.

Mr. Feiner reported that Mr. Pearson may be writing an article for ASHRAE Journal on Carnot and suggested that activities might want to be coordinated with the French Societies that will be celebrating this anniversary.

Mr. Feiner gave himself an action item to write a blurb on Carnot to be distributed to regional historians. **(ACTION ITEM 7)**

Mr. Nagengast suggested looking in ASHRAE 1994 publication Heat and Cold: Mastering the Great Indoors by himself and Barry Donaldson for information on Carnot.

Secretary's Note: ISBN 1883413176 - This illustrated history book traces the growth of heating, ventilating, air-conditioning and refrigerating technology from its ancient beginnings to twentieth century sophistication. Scientific developments are described in the context of how their application influenced technology and buildings, creating a new way of life for the consuming public. Published to commemorate ASHRAE's 100th Anniversary, the oversize volume contains numerous black and white and color illustrations.

Mr. Feiner reported Mr. Pearson also wanted to remind members that the anniversary of the birthday of Lord Kelvin is in 2024.

11.2 IEEE Update

Mr. Morasch reported that funding for the IEEE agreement was approved by PEC the agreement has yet to be signed. Mr. Morasch will be attending the PEC meeting to request an update on the process at their meeting on June 27, 2023.

12. New Business

None.

13. Mr. Feiner adjourned the meeting at 11:42 pm.