

THE LONG ISLAND SOUNDER



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President's Message

Dear ASHRAE Long Island Chapter Members,

Reflecting on a Successful Trade Show

I'd like to start by thanking everyone who attended and supported our recent ASHRAE Long Island Trade Show. The event was a tremendous success and a great reflection of the strength of our chapter and the HVAC community as a whole. From our exhibitors and sponsors to our presenters and attendees, your participation made this event both valuable and impactful. We continue to build on this momentum each year, and it's clear that this event has become a cornerstone of our chapter's calendar.

April Presentation: Cooling for Data Centers

This month's technical session will focus on **Cooling for Data Centers**, a highly relevant topic as demand for high-density computing and AI-driven infrastructure continues to grow. We encourage all members to attend and take advantage of the opportunity to gain insights into evolving cooling strategies, system design considerations, and emerging technologies in this rapidly expanding segment of our industry.

Upcoming Event: Annual Golf Outing – May 4, 2026

We are excited to announce that our Annual Golf Outing will be held on **Monday, May 4, 2026 at Cherry Valley Club in Garden City**. This is always one of our most anticipated events of the year, bringing together members, colleagues, and industry partners for a full day of networking and camaraderie.

The outing will include brunch, a shotgun start, on-course refreshments, and a full reception and dinner program to close out the day. As always, this event fills up quickly, and we encourage everyone to register early and consider participating in one of the many sponsorship opportunities available. Sponsorship support plays a critical role in helping us fund chapter initiatives throughout the year.

Finishing the Year Strong

As we move into the final stretch of our ASHRAE year, our focus is on maintaining the strong momentum we've built across all areas of the chapter. From technical programs and student activities to research promotion and membership engagement, we are committed to finishing the year on a high note.

We encourage all members to stay involved, attend upcoming meetings, and continue supporting the chapter's initiatives. Your participation is what drives the success of this organization and ensures we continue to grow and evolve.

Thank you again for your continued support of ASHRAE Long Island. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Matthew Catan

President

ASHRAE Long Island Chapter

MEETING PROGRAM

Attendees
Will Earn
1 PDH!



Carolina Lebrón

Fees:

Members - \$50 pp

Guests - \$70 pp

Students - \$15 pp

Date: Tuesday, April 14th 2025

Time: 6PM-9PM

6:00 PM - Cocktails/Networking

7:00 PM - Dinner Presentations

8:45 PM - Conclusion

Location: *Westbury Manor*

1100 Jericho Tpke., Westbury, NY 11590

Directions are posted at @ www.ashraeli.org

Presentation Topic:

Cooling the A.I. Era: How Dry and Adiabatic Technologies are Meeting Data Centers' Surging Heat Challenge

As AI compute demand surges, data centers are under increasing pressure to manage rising thermal loads beyond the limits of traditional air cooling. Next-generation systems are driving the need for liquid and advanced free-cooling solutions. This issue highlights dry and adiabatic cooling methods, along with innovations that boost efficiency and reduce energy consumption, helping facilities stay competitive and future-ready.

About our Speaker:

Carolina Lebrón holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering with a focus in Thermal Fluids. She began her career as a Rotating Equipment Engineer in steel mill and chemical plant environments, building a strong foundation in industrial systems. She later transitioned into the cooling industry, gaining experience with air-cooled heat exchangers, axial fans, cooling towers, and hybrid fluid coolers across power, oil & gas, and HVAC applications.

Today, she is a Sales Engineer with LU-VE US, Inc., specializing in data center cooling and heat rejection systems, bringing a well-rounded background in both rotating equipment and thermal systems.



**WILLIAM S. ARTIS
MEMORIAL STUDENT
SCHOLARSHIP**



We're proud to announce our annual ASHRAE student scholarships have been renamed the William S. Artis Memorial Scholarship, honoring Bill's legacy of leadership, education, and dedication to mentoring the next generation of industry professionals. His passion for learning and commitment to supporting young professionals continues through this opportunity.

Applications are now open, apply today to be considered.



Due: 4/30/2026



FACTORY TOUR



Date

Tuesday, May 12th 2026



Time

6:00pm–8:30pm



Islandaire

*500 Middle Country Rd,
St James, NY 11780*



Chapter Monthly Meeting - Program for 2023/2024

<p>September 9, 2025* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation – ASHRAE 62.1 Understanding the Indoor Air Quality Procedure</p> <p>Presenter: Tim Boyd</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH*</p>	<p>March 10, 2026* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Long Island Trade Show</p>
<p>October 14, 2025* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentations - VRF and The A2L Refrigerant Transition</p> <p>Presenter- Anthony Frizalone</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>April 14, 2026</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>
<p>November 4, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— Creating an Underground Research Facility to Explore the Universe</p> <p>Presenter- Darryl K. Boyce</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>May 2026 * Cherry Valley Club, Garden City, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL GOLF OUTING</p>
<p>December 9, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation—TBD **1 PDH**</p>	<p>May 12, 2026</p> <p>Annual Field Trip—TBA</p>
<p>January 13, 2026 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>June 2026 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Free Buffet Dinner for Members</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENTS NIGHT & OFFICER INSTALLATION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED ASHRAE History Quiz and prize Give-A-Ways</p>
<p>February 10, 2026</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p>Presenter: TBD</p>	<p>July 2026- TBD (4pm-8pm) * Dixie II @ Captree State Park Boat Basin, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL FISHING TRIP</p>
	<p>August 2026</p> <p>Chapters' Regional Conference (CRC) Region I GRANIT STATE</p>

Long Island Chapter Officers & Committees

ASHRAE 2024/2025 OFFICERS		
POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	Matthew Catan	c006@ashrae.net
President-Elect	Michael Razzano	c006pe@ashrae.net
Vice President	Zhiganag XU	c006vp@ashrae.net
Treasurer	Richard Smith	c006tr@ashrae.net
Secretary	Michael S. Gerazounis	c006sec@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Thomas DiBenedetto	c006bog1@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Pete Conte	c006bog2@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Steven Gerazounis	c006bog3@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Michael Nigro	c006bog4@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Richard Smith	c006bog5@ashrae.net

ASHRAE 2023/2024	COMMITTEES	
COMMITTEE	NAME	EMAIL
Programs & Special Events	Michael Nigro	c006pe@ashrae.net
Membership (MP)	Michael Gerazounis	c006mep@ashrae.net
Refrigeration	Kenny Balci	c006ref@ashrae.net
Chapter Technology Transfer (CTTC)	Michael Razzano	c006cttc@ashrae.net
Government Activities (GGAC)	Rich Smith	006ggac@ashrae.net
Newsletter Editor	Alexis H. Smith	c006ne@ashrae.net
Research Promotion (RP)	Peter Conte	c006rp@ashrae.net
Historian	Elizabeth Jedrlinic	c006his@ashrae.net
Student Activities (SA)	Katlyn Coolbaugh	c006sa@ashrae.net
Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA)	Steven Gerazounis	c006yea@ashrae.net
Webmaster	Frank Paradiso	c006web@ashrae.net
Nominating	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP	nominating@ashraeli.org
Reception & Attendance	Steven Gerazounis	reception@ashraeli.org
PR & Engineering Joint Council of LI (EJCLI) Liaison	Andrew Manos, LEED AP	pr@ashraeli.org
Golf Outing	Peter Gerazounis, PE LEED AP	golf@ashraeli.org
Awards	Brian Simkins	c006ha@ashrae.net
ASHRAE LI, P.O. Box 79, Commack, NY 11725		

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Long Island Chapter - Past Presidents

1958	H. Campbell, Jr. PE	1982	Timothy Murphy, PE	2006	John Nally
1959	Clyde Alston, PE	1983	Leon Taub, PE	2007	Peter Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP
1960	Sidney Walzer, PE	1984	Raymond Combs	2008	Steven Friedman, PE, HFDP, LEED AP
1961	Sidney Gayle	1985	Edward W. Hoffmann	2009	Steven Giammona, P.E., LEED AP
1962	William Kane	1986	Jerome T. Norris, PE	2010	Nancy Román
1963	Louis Bloom	1987	Abe Rubenstein, PE	2011	Carolyn Arote
1964	Milton Maxwell	1988	Michael O'Rourke	2012	Brian Simkins, LEED AP
1965	Will Reichenback	1989	Mel Deimel	2013	Andrew Manos, LEED AP BD+C
1966	Joseph Minton, PE	1990	Robert Rabell	2014	Richard L. Rosner, P.E.
1967	Irwin Miller	1991	Gerald Berman	2015	Thomas J. Fields, P.E., LEED AP
1968	Walter Gilroy	1992	Donald Stahl	2016	Donald Kane, P.E.
1969	Charles Henry	1993	Ronald Kilcarr	2017	Andrew Dubel, P.E., LEED AP
1970	William Wright	1994	Jerald Griliches	2018	Richard Halley
1971	Louis Lenz	1995	Walter Stark	2019	Frank Paradiso
1972	Ronald Levine	1996	Joe Marino	2020	James Hanna
1973	Henry Schulman	1997	Norm Maxwell, PE	2021	Matthew J. Vitrano
1974	Myron Goldberg	1998	Alan Goerke, PE	2022	Murat Bayramoglu
1975	John N. Haarhaus	1999	Frank Morgigno	2023	Michael Nigro
1976	Richard K. Ennis	2000	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP	2024	Elizabeth Jedrlinic
1977	Kenneth A. Graff	2001	Ray Schmitt		
1978	Evans Lizardos, PE, LEED AP	2002	Steven M. Stein, PE		
1979	Albert Edelstein	2003	Andrew Braum, PE		
1980	Ralph Butler	2004	Claudio Darras, P.E.		
1981	Robert Rose, PE	2005	Craig D. Marshall, P.E.		



YEA

The ASHRAE Long Island Chapter is set to host an upcoming factory tour at Islandaire in St. James, NY, offering members and guests an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at HVAC manufacturing in action. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the production facility and gain insight into the design, engineering, and assembly processes behind high-performance climate control solutions. This event is designed to provide valuable, real-world learning experiences for both industry professionals and young engineers, while also fostering meaningful networking opportunities. Participants will be able to connect with peers, exchange ideas, and engage with experts in the field. The factory tour reflects ASHRAE's continued commitment to advancing industry knowledge, supporting professional development, and connecting its members with the technologies shaping the future of HVAC.



On a Society level, ASHRAE offers many programs and events that can enhance the professional development of YEA members, such as Leadership Weekend, Leadership U, LeaDRS, ASHRAE Connect, and the HVAC Design Scholarship.

YEA Events



YEA Leadership Weekend 1.0

LEARN MORE



YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0

LEARN MORE



YEA Leadership International

LEARN MORE

YEA Programs



Leadership U

LEARN MORE



LeaDRS

LEARN MORE



HVAC Design Scholarship

LEARN MORE



Presidential Initiative Challenge

(formerly YEA Design Initiative)

LEARN MORE



ASHRAE Connect

LEARN MORE

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs>

Leadership U

If you wanted the opportunity to participate and follow regional and society officers there are two great options to do so! With Leadership U (4) YEA members will be selected for the winter or annual conference and attend all of their respective society officer's events, board meetings and social activities. Applications for the 2026 Winter Conference in Las Vegas are open now. Please use the link below to register and for more information.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/leadership-u>



2025 Winter Leadership U Participants

Mohammed Murtaza, ASHRAE Falcon Chapter, RAL

Kaustubh Deepak Wani, Pune Chapter, Region XV

Bin Lin, Macao Chapter, Region XIII

Steven Gerazounis, Long Island Chapter, Region I

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/leadership-u>

LeaDRS

Similar to the Leadership U program, LeaDRS allows a region to select any ASHRAE member to shadow their Director and Regional Chair (DRC) at an ASHRAE Conference. To apply for this program you must contact the DRC directly. For Long Island that would be Charles Bertuch.

Region I : Mr. Charles Bertuch

Email: R01drc@ashrae.net

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/ashrae-region-leads-program>

HVAC Design Scholarship

Are you looking for the chance to get a better grasp of the fundamentals and technical aspects to design, install and maintain HVAC systems? YEA has a fantastic program to cover all of those bases with an attendance scholarship for either level I or II training. Applications for this program will begin in October so please be on the lookout to take advantage of this opportunity!

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-scholarship-for-hvac-design-essentials-training>

Technical Committees

Are you looking to get more involved with your industry or ASHRAE as a whole? Take a look to see if there are any technical committees that interest you!

<https://ashrae.org/technical-resources/technical-committees>

Getting more involved gives you the opportunity to directly impact our industry and expand your knowledge base. To learn more about these committees you can also reach out via phone or email at:

404-636-8400

tcstaff@ashrae.net

YEA Awards

So many YEA members are deserving of awards for their hard work, dedication and faithful service to this society but don't receive them because people don't know they are eligible to be nominated. Please look into the numerous awards available for YEA members under the Honors and Awards tab.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/honors-and-awards>

For any awards that you cannot nominate yourself or another YEA member you may need to reach out to your YEA Regional Vice Chair, Society YEA Committee member or Director and Regional Chair to provide them with the information they require to submit a nomination form.

ASHRAE Connect

Are you a first-time attendee at the ASHRAE Conference, or have you attended before but felt overwhelmed by the many options? This new shadowing program offers the perfect opportunity to gain first-hand experience by following a member of ASHRAE through committee meetings and conference events.

Designed for ASHRAE members seeking to build stronger connections and deepen their understanding of ASHRAE's processes, this program aims to help you navigate the conference with guidance and insight from experienced members. By participating, you'll not only gain valuable knowledge but also feel welcomed in committee meetings, ensuring you have a seat at the table and a voice in the discussions that shape our industry.

[ASHRAE Connect](#)

ASHRAE Chapter Leadership Academy

Calling all future ASHRAE leaders! Are YOU interested in taking the next step and learning more about volunteering with ASHRAE? The YEA Committee is seeking engaged, active, and enthusiastic ASHRAE members to represent their regions at the 2026 ASHRAE Chapter Leadership Academy, March 6th – 7th at ASHRAE HQ in Atlanta. Attendees will gain a better understanding of how ASHRAE Society functions and obtain useful and practical knowledge essential for honing ASHRAE leadership skills. This program is specifically designed to provide an intimate learning experience for up-and-coming chapter leaders who have the potential to serve ASHRAE at the Society-level. To apply for this program you must contact the DRC directly by November 21st. For Long Island that would be Charles Bertuch.

Region I : Mr. Charles Bertuch

Email: R01drc@ashrae.net

Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium

The Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium is now accepting speaker proposals for a YEA Speaker Session. This unique event brings together women in HVAC&R and the built environment to share experiences, strategies, and inspiration around leadership, career growth, and resilience. Please use the link below for the Call for Abstracts;

[2026 WiA Leadership Symposium - ConfTool Pro - Login](#)



2025-2026 Presidential Initiative Challenge

The Presidential Initiative Challenge (previously the Decarbonization Challenge) is a year-long competitive fund (\$1,000 - \$10,000) program to implement projects within local chapters that are tied to the year's presidential theme. Bill McQuade has announced his presidential theme, Indoor Environmental Quality. This year's program will be centered around implementing IEQ projects. This program is implemented through the YEA committee with grass roots outreach through the YEA chairs/committees at each chapter. Applications for the program will remain open until November 3rd, 2025.

<https://www.ashrae.org/about/yea-presidential-initiative-challenge>

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or comments about YEA.

-Steven Gerazounis



Government Affairs

We have been very busy recently with Trade Shows and a Day on the Hill in Albany.

You may ask, "Why does ASHRAE want to speak to State Senators and Representatives?"

ASHRAE as a whole creates Standards; these standards level the playing field and force an agreed upon Goal and Projection thereafter. When applied to a law or notation in a Legislation we can force everyone to be looking at the same metric which is assumed to be the most effective and efficient at determining how things will be done.

These Standards are not developed in a vacuum in fact it is a community of the industry. Engineers, Manufacturers and even construction and Service industries specialist. Once a goal is agreed upon then the who, how and why can be established.

As a politician, referring to a Standard is a way to say I am siding with the experts. This gives them cover and confidence that it is achievable and traceable and a great way to look smart to their political colleges. ("We're Following the Science")

New York Chapters Hold Successful Day on the Hill Event in Albany

On March 26, 2026, Six ASHRAE members from New York held a successful Day on the Hill event at the New York State Capitol and Legislative Office Building. ASHRAE members Charles Bertuch, Director and Regional Chair for Region I, from the Central New York Chapter; Sameer Bhise, Government Affairs Chair for the Rochester Chapter; Ryan Kilgore from the Rochester Chapter; Rich Smith and Matthew Catan from the Long Island Chapter; and Joe Lettko from the Northeast Chapter, along with ASHRAE staff, participated in the event. The Day on the Hill included 20 meetings with legislators and their staff. Discussions were focused on an introduction to ASHRAE, indoor air quality, the ongoing refrigerant transition, energy efficiency, data centers, and the importance of adopting ASHRAE standards. If you or your chapter are interested in conducting a Day on the Hill event, please contact Government Affairs staff at GovAffairs@ashrae.org.



ASHRAE members (from left): Rich Smith, Ryan Kilgore, Charles Bertuch, Matthew Catan, Joe Lettko, Sameer Bhise at the New York State Capitol

New York Governor Proposes Changes to Landmark Climate Law

On March 20, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul proposed major changes to the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), the state's landmark climate law passed in 2019. Significantly, Gov. Hochul proposed to push back the deadline from 2026 to 2030 for the state to develop regulations limiting greenhouse gas emissions and revise the accounting methodology for tracking greenhouse gas emissions. New York utilizes a 20-year time frame for measuring the emissions impacts of pollutants rather than the 100-year time frame used by most U.S. states.

This overrepresents short-lived greenhouse gases, like methane, as components of total GHGs compared to carbon dioxide. Gov. Hochul aims to keep the CLCPA's existing statewide greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2050 and create a new target for 2040, which is still to be determined. Additional changes to the law would include a new 'ratepayer protection plan' intended to lower residents' utility bills by reforming the process by which regulators consider electricity rate hikes. If passed by the legislature, these changes will be included in the state budget in this current legislative session.

Rich's Note: Needless to say, this was a hot button issue on the Day on the Hill, and many Senators and Representatives were upset on both Political sides. This being an election season is primarily what is driving this decision. Unfortunately, this is creating massive instability in Planning and letting the utility slow down on supply issues.

Bipartisan SECURE Grid Act Introduced in Senate

On Tuesday, a bipartisan group of senators introduced [legislation](#) that would strengthen energy security elements of the U.S. State Energy Program (SEP) and increase the role of states in protecting energy resources. The “Securing Community Upgrades for a Resilient Grid Act (SECURE Grid Act)” would require states to report on new threats to the grid in annual reports to SEP so they may be better understood and addressed. Identical [legislation](#) was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in January.

Trump Administration Issues Executive Order on Housing

On March 13, President Donald Trump issued an executive order (EO) titled, “Removing Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Home Construction.” The EO instructs several agencies to streamline permitting, facilitate new residential construction, and review and revise regulations the administration finds burdensome to housing affordability. The order calls for eliminating or curtailing energy efficiency or green energy building requirements in a variety of cases. ASHRAE Standard 90.1- Energy Standard for Sites and Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings is cited in many of the federal regulations and statutes the administration is targeting. The most relevant sections include revisions to:

- Adoption of Energy Efficiency Standards for New Construction financed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Residential building energy codes subject to review by the U.S. Department of Energy
- Mandates by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, such as green-energy building requirements or other energy-choice restrictions

The EO can be found [here](#).

Richard Smith – GAC Chair.
006ggac@ashrae.net



Historian

“Those who forget their history are condemned to repeat it.”
George Santayana (Philosopher)

Roosevelt Field Mall & HVAC Innovation

Roosevelt Field Mall played a pivotal role in HVAC history, emerging in the 1960s as an early adopter of large packaged rooftop units at scale. Its development marked a turning point in how commercial spaces approached comfort, efficiency, and system design.

This milestone highlights challenges that still shape our industry today—from evolving technologies to changing regulations and the human element behind engineering decisions. By reflecting on these advancements, we gain a deeper understanding of how past innovations continue to influence modern HVAC solutions.

ASHRAE members are encouraged to consider how these lessons apply to their own work—whether through smarter design choices, stronger client relationships, or a continued focus on performance and sustainability. As our industry evolves, the role of ASHRAE and its members remains critical in driving innovation, sharing knowledge, and building a stronger professional community.

Thomas DiBenedetto, PE
Historian





Sustainability

Embodied Carbon in HVAC Systems: The Hidden Emissions

When we talk about sustainable HVAC design, most conversations focus on operational energy—how efficiently systems heat, cool, and ventilate buildings. But an often-overlooked factor is embodied carbon: the greenhouse gas emissions associated with manufacturing, transporting, and installing HVAC equipment and materials.

As buildings become more energy efficient and electrified, embodied carbon is becoming a larger share of total lifecycle emissions—making it an important consideration for engineers and designers

What Is Embodied Carbon?

Embodied carbon includes emissions from:

- Equipment manufacturing (chillers, air handlers, heat pumps)
- Sheet metal ductwork and piping systems
- Refrigerant production and leakage potential
- Transportation and installation processes

Unlike operational emissions, these impacts occur **before a system is even turned on**—and cannot be reduced after installation.

Why It Matters Now

With New York's push toward decarbonization under Local Law 97 and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), operational emissions are decreasing as buildings electrify and the grid becomes cleaner.

As a result:

- Embodied carbon can represent a **significant portion of total building emissions over time**
- Frequent equipment replacement can increase lifecycle carbon impact
- Designers are being asked to consider **whole-life carbon**, not just energy use

This shift is already influencing high-performance building standards and owner expectations across the region.

Strategies to Reduce Embodied Carbon

1. Extend Equipment Life

Maintaining and upgrading existing systems—rather than replacing them—can significantly reduce lifecycle emissions.

2. Right-Size Systems

Oversized equipment increases material use and embodied carbon. Accurate load calculations and diversity factors are essential.

3. Optimize Distribution Systems

Reducing ductwork and piping through efficient layouts lowers material use and installation impacts.

4. Select Lower-Impact Refrigerants

Refrigerants contribute both operational and embodied emissions. Choosing low-GWP options reduces total lifecycle impact.

While tools for calculating embodied carbon are still evolving, awareness and early decision-making can have a meaningful impact.



Refrigeration

New York's Strict HFC Timetable

New York State continues to lead with one of the most aggressive refrigerant regulations in the country, utilizing a 20-year Global Warming Potential (GWP) horizon—significantly stricter than current federal standards. This accelerated timeline is driving rapid change across the HVAC industry, pushing manufacturers, engineers, and contractors to adapt quickly to lower-GWP alternatives.

These evolving regulations present both challenges and opportunities. From redesigning systems to navigating compliance and performance tradeoffs, professionals must stay informed and proactive. At the same time, this shift encourages innovation and more sustainable approaches to system design.

ASHRAE members are encouraged to consider how these regulatory changes impact their own projects, client strategies, and long-term career growth. By asking critical questions, collaborating with peers, and embracing new technologies, we can better align performance goals with environmental responsibility. As the industry continues to evolve, ASHRAE's mission—and the contributions of its members—remain essential in advancing knowledge, supporting sustainable solutions, and strengthening our professional community.

-Kenny Balci



CTTC Corner: Industry Connections in Action

The Long Island engineering community has been busy lately, and it's been great to see the continued momentum across our chapter through technical events, industry collaboration, and opportunities to connect with colleagues across the HVAC and plumbing industry.

On February 18th, our chapter had the pleasure of visiting National Compressor Exchange in Farmingdale for a fantastic factory tour hosted by their team. A sincere thank you goes out to National Compressor Exchange for opening their doors and providing such an informative and engaging evening. Attendees were able to see firsthand the level of craftsmanship and technical expertise that goes into compressor remanufacturing and the important role these components play in keeping HVAC and refrigeration systems running smoothly. Beyond the technical insight, the tour was also a great reminder that some of the best learning in our industry happens not just in presentations or classrooms but standing around equipment with fellow engineers asking questions and occasionally pointing at something and saying, "That's pretty impressive."

Continuing that spirit of industry collaboration, we're excited to announce the 3rd Annual Engineering & HVAC Industry Trade Show, hosted jointly by the ASHRAE Long Island Chapter and the ASPE Long Island Chapter, taking place on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Westbury Manor. This event has quickly grown into one of Long Island's premier gatherings for engineers, contractors, manufacturers, and industry professionals. With 50+ vendor exhibits, three PDH presentations throughout the day, and plenty of opportunities to network with colleagues from across the industry, the Expo continues to showcase the innovation and collaboration that make our field so dynamic. And of course, in true industry fashion, the event will also feature great food, an open bar, and hourly raffles, which we all know helps encourage a little extra "networking."

Events like these highlight what makes our professional community special. Whether it's learning something new on a factory floor, exchanging ideas with manufacturers, or connecting with peers at an industry gathering, these opportunities help strengthen the relationships and knowledge sharing that move our profession forward.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the HVAC & Plumbing Long Island Expo on March 10th and continuing another great year of technical engagement for the ASHRAE Long Island Chapter.

Michael H. Razzano
CTTC Chair
ASHRAE Long Island Chapter



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

World Metrics Report 2026- Diversity Equity And Inclusion In the HVAC Industry Statistics

1. Only 10% of HVAC engineers are women (2023 ASHRAE Gender Diversity Report)
2. Hispanic/Latino workers make up 18% of HVAC technicians, despite being 19% of the U.S. workforce (2022 BLS Data)
3. The percentage of Black technicians in the U.S. is 8%, below the 13% U.S. population share (2023 NAHB Construction Labor Report)
4. 60% of HVAC employees report receiving DEI training in the past year (2023 HVAC Excellence DEI Survey)
5. 22% of HVAC staff have experienced racial discrimination at work (2022 CDC Workplace Health Report)
6. HVAC companies with mentorship programs have a 30% higher retention rate for minority employees (2023 SHRM Report)
7. Minority-owned HVAC suppliers receive only 1.2% of total industry procurement spending (2023 NMSDC Data)
8. Women-owned HVAC suppliers account for 1.8% of industry procurement (2023 WBENC Report)
9. Only 0.5% of HVAC suppliers are owned by disabled individuals (2022 ADA Supplier Diversity Report)
10. Low-income households are 3x more likely to have HVAC systems that cause health issues (2023 EPA Indoor Air Quality Report)
11. Minority neighborhoods have 25% fewer energy-efficient HVAC installations (2023 ACEEE Energy Efficiency Report)
12. HVAC service response times for rural minority communities are 40% longer (2023 USDA Rural Development Report)
13. Only 15% of HVAC companies are certified as 'microaggressor-free' workplaces (2023 Trust Across America)
14. The HVAC industry has 0 federal laws mandating DEI in hiring (2023 EEOC Report)
15. 85% of states have no regulations requiring HVAC companies to report DEI data (2023 National Conference of State Legislatures)

Elizabeth Jedrlinic
DEI Chair



Research Promotion

If we knew what we're doing it wouldn't be called research"
– Albert Einstein

I would like to thank the companies who have participated in the annual Product Directory of Manufacturers and their Representatives. The product Directory has been prepared as a service to all its members and as a service to the local HVAC industry. It will be made available to all ASHRAE and non-ASHRAE members at no-cost and can be obtained from our monthly meetings or directly from our website.

This year's overall research promotion goal is \$2,720,000 with many research projects on board. Our chapter is expected to raise \$56,987.00 towards the overall goal. I am hoping that I can count on the continued support of all our past contributors who have generously supported us over the years. I also look forward to gaining the support of new contributors this coming year. Last year we were successful in beating our goal and am hopeful that this year we can continuously raise the bar.

We are hosting the 2025 ASHRAE REGION 1 CRC and have sponsorship packages available.

Thank you to our contributors!
Individuals

Mr. John D. Nally
Mr. Peter J. Conte, PE
Ms. Elizabeth Jedrlinic
Mr. Kenny Balci
Mr. Steven Gerazounis
Mr. Murat Bayramoglu
Mr. Michael Steven Gerazounis
Mr. Matthew K. Catan
Mr. Thomas Arthur DiBenedetto

Mr. Zhigang Xu
Mr. Michael Nigro
Mr. Richard W. Smith
Mr. Donald W. Kane, PE
Mr. Michael H. Razzano
Mr. Frank Paradiso
Mr. Michael F Schiavo
Mr. James R Tauby, PE
Mr. James W Armstrong

Contributions can be made in the following ways:

Mail checks, made out to ASHRAE Research Promotion to:

Peter Conte

ASHRAE Research Promotion Chair

PO BOX 79

Commack, NY 11725

Hand check to me at any of the chapter meetings.

PayPal from the ASHRAE Long Island Website

Click Donate Button

www.ashrae.org

Please make sure you accredit the contribution to the Long Island Chapter 006





Student Activities

Hello everyone — and welcome to a brand new month of opportunity, growth, and connection! I'm honored to serve as your Student Activities Chair for 2025–2026, and I look forward to working with all of you to make this year one of our best yet.

This section of the newsletter will keep you informed about programs, events, scholarships, and ways to get involved. I also encourage you to share your ideas, projects, and successes — we want to spotlight your amazing work!

Spotlight on Hofstra University

One of our highlights this past few weeks has been the incredible momentum we've built with Hofstra University. We proudly helped establish Hofstra as an official ASHRAE Student Branch, expanding our student network and deepening our commitment to future professionals in the HVAC&R field. Our team has also had the pleasure of attending Hofstra's student branch meetings, where we've delivered talks about the value of ASHRAE — from scholarship and research opportunities to networking and career development. It's been inspiring to witness the enthusiasm and curiosity of Hofstra students, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in the coming year!

ASHRAE Scholarships — 2026–2027 Cycle

Are you looking for funding to support your education while making an impact in the HVAC&R industry?

Through ASHRAE's Scholarship Program, we aim to support students pursuing degrees in engineering, technology, and related fields that contribute to sustainable built environments.

Key Details:

- Scholarships range from **\$3,000 to \$12,500**
- Applications typically open in **October**
- Awards are for the **2026–2027 academic year**
- Multiple categories available: Undergraduate, Engineering Technology, Regional/Chapter, and University-specific

I strongly encourage all eligible students to apply — I'll share reminders and tips once the application period opens.

[**SCHOLARSHIPS**](#)

2025–2026 High School Design Competition

Calling all students aged 13–18 who are interested in HVAC, design, or sustainability! This year's **High School Design Competition** is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to design a system for a hypothetical building while applying real-world engineering principles.

Important Dates:

- Submission Deadline: **December 30, 2025**
- Topic and guidelines will be posted in **early fall**

Form a team with friends from school or a local club, and bring your creative and technical skills to life!

[2025-2026 ASHRAE High School Design Competition](#)

Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants

For those working on senior projects or capstone designs: you may be eligible to secure funding for materials and equipment related to ASHRAE-relevant work.

Grant Highlights:

- For engineering, technical, or architectural programs
- Typically supports projects lasting one academic term up to one year
- **Application deadline:** December 15, 2025

About Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants

Get Involved

- **Leadership Opportunities:** ASHRAE offers society-level leadership development, mentoring, and committee involvement. Programs like Leadership U and LeaDRS are a great way to grow.
- **Contribute to the Newsletter:** Have you recently completed a research project, internship, or won an award? We'd love to highlight your achievements.
- **Branch Events & Webinars:** I'll be working with student branches to host local events, webinars, and mixers. Got ideas? Let's talk!

I'm truly excited to get this year underway and help make it meaningful for everyone involved. If you have questions, want to collaborate, or have suggestions for student engagement — please don't hesitate to reach out.

Here's to a productive, engaging, and inspiring 2025–2026!

Warmly,

Katlyn Coolbaugh

Student Activities Chair, ASHRAE Long Island

Certification



Certified

ASHRAE, accredited by ANSI under ISO/IEC 17024 for the High-Performance Building Design Professional (HBDP) program, has certified more than 2,000 Built Environmental Professionals.

Energy Assessment

Energy Modeling

Commissioning

Healthcare
Facility Design

High-Performance
Building Design

Building Operations

ASHRAE certification programs:

- Are developed by industry practitioners who understand the knowledge and experience that are expected for superior building design and system operation
- Assure employers and clients of subject mastery
- Serve as a springboard for continued professional development
- Offer an easy-to-apply process

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO - <https://www.ashrae.org/education--certification/certification>

Join ASHRAE on Social Media!



Social Media

Follow **ASHRAE** on **Twitter** @ashraenews for up-to-date news, events, and articles about HVAC&R. Search #MyASHRAE on Twitter to see member photos from around the world.

Follow us on [Twitter](#)



Most Popular Tweets

Does It Cost More To Build Green? Benefits include reduced operating costs & construction waste.

Online Thermal Comfort Compliance Tool Included In New ASHRAE User's Manual.

87% of households in the US have #AC, 5% do in India. India's tough choice on air-conditioning and climate.



The November issue of the Journal is tested for binding strength to see how many times a page can be turned before the binding would fail.

Harvard & SUNY Upstate Medical University find that workers are healthier and happier in certified green buildings.

ASHRAE Standard 90.1 has been redefining energy savings since 1975. A new version is available now.

Adapting historical buildings for sustainable reuse.

Get To Know ASHRAE





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