



Newsletter

March 10th, 2015

University of Memphis - Holiday Inn

Presidents Corner

Chapter Members,

I hope everyone has been able to stay warm through all this cold weather, but a warmer season is right around the corner as we near the end of our 2014-2015 ASHRAE calendar year. I would like to continually thank all of our members for the continued support and participating in our events, as well as our Board of Governors who have worked diligently this year to provide a series of programs, events, and information.

As we head into March, I would like to share that this month is our annual Research and Promotion Awareness month. If you have not previously donated, please consider doing so. These donations help fund research projects that continue to increase our knowledge, develop new standards that improve building construction, and continually push our industry to new levels. Every dollar counts and we appreciate your support.

In April, thanks to the combined work of Jesse Taylor and Russ Fletcher, we will be hosting a Technical Infrastructure Tour of FedEx Forum with our newly revived student chapter. The tentative date is April 16th at 3 p.m. and we would encourage all members to attend. As in the past, we will offer PDH certificates for the attendees of the event. Please be sure to RSVP to Jesse Taylor or Russ Fletcher if you plan on attending.

Last but not least, I would like to remind everyone that Mike Bilderbeck is planning the CRC that is coming to Memphis this year and he is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please be sure to contact him for more information! We look forward to seeing you at our next regularly scheduled meeting on March 10, 2015 at the University of Memphis Holiday Inn!

Sincerely,
Aubrey Tucker



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Calling all Members

Chapter Members,

The Memphis CRC is right around the corner and we need your help! We need any and all volunteers to assist the CRC chairman with the daunting task of entertaining guests from the seven states in our region. Anything is useful! If you have the hours to volunteer please do, also if you have any connections that might be useful please help us out! We thank you in advance for anything you have to offer.

New Tomorrows for Today's Buildings

ASHRAE's Chapter Technology Transfer Committee will present a **FREE Webcast** on Thursday, April 23, 2015. This webcast will feature industry experts who will define the benefits of existing building commissioning for the environment, occupants, operations staff, and overall ownership costs. Viewers will be able to recognize the varied scopes of commissioning, when to apply comprehensive versus focused commissioning, and best practices in existing building commissioning specifications & contracting.

[Click here for more info](#)

[If you would like to host or attend a viewing please contact Nick Maynard.
nickm@fluid-syst.net](#)

Featured Article - Graceful Inspiration

While some buildings wear their net zero design on their sleeves, the Packard Foundation Headquarters employs energy-efficient and sustainable technologies in a more understated fashion. Slanted roof lines, extensive exposed wood and transparent spaces create a warm, classic Californian feel to the space. The net positive energy building has achieved the Packard Foundation's goal of creating a building that is attractive, innovative, healthy and comfortable. The project received ASHRAE's Award of Engineering Excellence in 2014. It is only the fourth project to receive it since the award's creation in 1989.

[Click here for more info](#)



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Research & Promotion Month

March is Research and Promotion Awareness month! ASHRAE utilizes chapter donations in many ways. To catch up on past and future research projects and plans, check out the strategic plan developed every few years by the society below. The ASHRAE Research Strategic Plan outlines all the resources, topics, progress and results of all the research projects and even has a free final project report for download. All R&P donations go towards the continued improvement of our field with a focus on sustainability.

[Click here for more info](#)

FedEx Forum Technical Infrastructure Tour

University of Memphis students recently reached out requesting that ASHRAE host another technical infrastructure tour of the FedEx Forum. TENTATIVE schedule is 3 pm on Thursday April 16 with all attendees meeting in the main Forum lobby. The tour is primarily for students, but we have always opened it to the general chapter membership as it is a really interesting facility. Our tour guide has done this for us several times now, so he better knows specifically the items of interest to a mechanical crowd. The tour is mainly focused on the inner workings, but he also sprinkles in a good blend of other aspects that would be part of a general public tour. We'll offer pdh certificates for attendees as the event is primarily technical in nature. Please let Russ Fletcher or Jesse Taylor know in the coming weeks if you'd like to join mainly so we can keep an eye on headcount.

[Russ Fletcher - russ@computerenvironment.com](mailto:russ@computerenvironment.com)

[Jesse Taylor - jtaylor@tombarrow.com](mailto:jtaylor@tombarrow.com)

New jobs posted on the website

There are some great job opportunities on our website! Local engineering firms and facilities around town have immediate openings for talented applicants. This is a great resource for member firms to utilize and if you wish to post an open position please contact:

[Matt Maynard - mattm@fluid-syst.net](mailto:mattm@fluid-syst.net)

[Job postings can be found here](#)

If you wish to post a resumé on our website please get in touch.



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This month's presentation:

“Harmonic Distortion from Variable Frequency Drives: Its cause, Its Impacts and What Can Be Done”.

Presenter: Ken Fonstad

Ken Fonstad graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Parkside with Bachelor of Science degrees in Physics and Mathematics and from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee with a Masters of Science degree in Environmental Engineering. He taught Physics and Mathematics full time at Brookfield Central High School and part time at Waukesha County Technical College and Marquette University. He was also a visiting lecturer at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Ken worked as the Marketing Manager for Shimpo Drives, a manufacturer of industrial adjustable speed drives, speed reducers, and related control equipment. He also founded Technical Assistance, a company that provides technical support services, such as custom technical training programs, technical writing, electronic publishing, and custom computer programming. He served as the Training Manager for Danfoss Drives and their predecessor, the Graham Company, until the Fall of 2010. During this time he was a member of the Danfoss Drives Global Training Team. In the fall of 2010 he became the HVAC Application Engineering Manager for Low Voltage Drives at ABB. In 2014 he moved into his present position as the HVAC Sales / Application Support Principal Engineer for ABB.

Ken is a member of the American Association of Physics Teachers, the Hydraulic Institute, ASHRAE and AHRI (The Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute). He is a member of ASHRAE Technical Committee 1.11 for Electric Motors and Motor Controls and of the AHRI Variable Frequency Drive Section. He served as the original chair of this section's engineering working group when they began developing ANSI/AHRI Standards 1210 and 1211, “Performance Rating of Variable Frequency Drives”.

Articles written by Ken have appeared in Consulting/Specifying Engineer, Energy Engineering, Power Transmission Design, The Energy Efficiency Manual, The ASHRAE Handbook and NEMA'S electroindustry. He has made presentations on variable frequency drives and their application in HVAC systems to various engineering organizations, ASHRAE chapters and similar groups.