

March Newsletter

ASHRAE

Buffalo Chapter

A Message from Our President

As president, one of my proudest achievements during my term will be co-founding the Women in ASHRAE (WIA) committee with Lizzie. Together, we've created a welcoming and safe space for both women and men to discuss topics that are often overlooked. By fostering inclusivity, we are amplifying women's voices in an industry that has traditionally been male-dominated. Our chapter is on the brink of having three consecutive female presidents, and I am honored to help kickstart this exciting journey. As March is Women's History Month, I encourage you to reflect on the strong, positive female role models in your life.

Growing up, I was fortunate to have three incredible female role models. First, my mom, whose strength I've shared in my previous address. She instilled in me the values of hard work, perseverance, and compassion. Our family motto, "lead with love," is something she exemplifies every day. I was also deeply influenced by my two grandmothers, each with her own unique and powerful personality. I take great pride in the fact that I embody aspects of all three.

Our next WIA book club meeting will be on April 3rd at Ciao Ciao, where we'll be reading and discussing *15 Lies Women Are Told at Work* by Bonnie Hammer. All are welcome, whether or not you've read the book. We'll dive into meaningful conversations driven by the book's themes. Our last meeting surpassed all expectations, and I can't wait to see what this one will bring.

On March 11th, during our monthly meeting, we'll celebrate Women's History Month with Dr. Theresa A. Weston. Dr. Weston, who spoke to our chapter two years ago about women in the workplace, will return to discuss resilience in the built environment. With natural disasters such as wildfires becoming more frequent due to climate change, this discussion is incredibly timely and important.

Join us for our YEA event on March 21st at the Bandits game! There are just a few tickets left, so be sure to grab yours while you can. If tickets sell out, we still invite you to join us for the pre-game happy hour at Labatt Brew House. A huge thank you to RF Peck for sponsoring all the tickets, making this event free to attend, and to Victaulic for sponsoring the first round at happy hour. It promises to be a fun evening for all!

Lastly, when renewing your ASHRAE membership, please don't forget to check the box to join the Buffalo Chapter. The additional \$50 helps us cover fees paid to regional and national, ensuring our chapter remains in good financial standings.

May your thoughts be as glad as the shamrocks. May your heart be light as a song. May each day bring you bright, happy hours that stay with you all the year long.

Nicole Smith
President – ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter



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Website:

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

Socials:



Follow us on LinkedIn

Editor's Note:

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

Newsletter Disclaimer:

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YOUR CHAPTER NEWS IN ONE PLACE

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



Thanks to the 10 members who joined us for the first Sustainability Committee meeting on February 26th at Lucky Day. Discussion centered on how each of our companies are incorporating sustainability into our projects and how to further engage the community. The committee is planning on getting involved with Habitat for Humanity. Looking forward to future meetings with the group.



Scholarship Opportunities!



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

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

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



Check out Local Employment Opportunities!

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

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



Welcome to our New Member:



- Ms. Teresa Liddle; Liro-Hill Company

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



The graphic features an icon of three stylized orange figures being held up by two hands, symbolizing support or sponsorship. To the right, the word 'SPONSORSHIP' is written in large, bold, white capital letters, with 'Opportunities' written below it in a cursive, orange font.

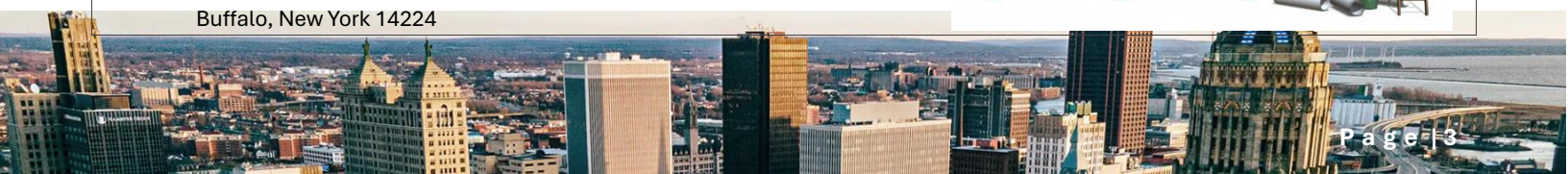
The chapter will be adding website sponsorships to our website, see below for tiers and perks of becoming a website sponsor:

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

Advertise in the Chapter Newsletter!

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

- E-mail a PDF copy of your ad to jmee@ipdengineering.com
- Please mail a check payable to ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter and address to:
ATTN: Eben Piazza
ASHRAE Buffalo Treasury
3132 Clinton Street
Buffalo, New York 14224



FEBRUARY CHAPTER MEETING RECAP

DISPLACEMENT INDUCTION VENTILATION – A CLEAR BENEFIT FOR SCHOOLS

presented by: Guckian Energy Systems



Thank you to our Sponsor:



Thank you to our Presenter:

Tom Snyder, Guckian Energy Systems

The February chapter meeting started with a tour of Cayuga Heights Elementary School where the district recently completed a capital improvement project which included 46 classrooms converted from traditional K-12 HVAC systems to displacement ventilation. The tour showcased three model classrooms. These classrooms highlighted the benefits of displacement and induction ventilation technology. Following the tour, attendees gathered at Sunset Lanes to further learn about the workings of induction and displacement ventilation. Members were educated on the operation of displacement ventilation and the differences between displacement and mixed air systems. Some of the highlighted touched on included energy savings, acoustical benefits, reduced maintenance, and effects on ventilation. Thanks to all who attended this dinner meeting and to our presenter, Tom Snyder, for enlightening the group on this beneficial technology by showcasing a project he was intimately involved with.




1 PDH Credit!

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

Date	Location	Topic and Speaker	Event Sponsor	Cost*
March 18, 2025 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Big Ditch Brewery 55 E. Huron St. Buffalo, NY 14203	Distinguished Lecturer: Dr. Theresa Weston Defining and Assessing Resilience	The chapter is will in need of sponsor, please reach out to Nicole Smith is interested	Member: \$35.00 Non-member: \$40.00 Student: \$20.00

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

UPCOMING YEA EVENT

Date	Time	Location	Event Sponsor	Cost*
March 21, 2025	7:00 p.m. start	Buffalo Bandits vs. Las Vegas Desert Dogs @ Key Bank Center		We are looking for a sponsor to for food and beverages!

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

UPCOMING WIA EVENT

Date and Time	Location	Women in ASHRAE Book Club	Book Discussion	Cost
April 3, 2024 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Ciao Ciao 1368 Hertel Ave. Buffalo, NY 14216	Please join us for book discussion, networking, and beverages. As always, WIA events are open to all chapter members, women and allies, interested in discussing the group's objectives.	Fifteen Lies Women are Told at Work by Bonnie Hammer	Free

PAOE SUMMARY

Category	Minimum Points	Par Points	Total Points
Chapter Operations	600	1500	540
Chapter Technology Transfer	550	1500	900
Communications	300	700	500
Government Affairs	500	1250	0
Historical	100	500	129
Membership Promotion	1000	1600	675
Research and Promotion	800	1050	170
Student Activities	500	800	0
Young Engineers in ASHRAE	300	900	925

* Point summary current as of 03/04/2025.



2024-2025 CTT / PROGRAMMING			
Date & Time	Presenter / Topic	Date & Time	Presenter / Topic
September 24, 2024 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Extreme Event Engineering – Understanding IBC Seismic/Wind Restraint Requirements and Risks presented by Greg Schmelig of Vibro-Acoustics	February 18, 2025 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Induction Displacement in Classrooms and Chilled Beams in the Corridors Tour and Meeting at Cayuga Heights Elementary School
October 15, 2024 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Technology of Vertical Flood Heat Exchangers - How They Can Utilize Both Sensible and Latent Heat presented by Patrick Lach, VP Sales & Business Development at Maxi-Therm Inc.	March 11, 2025 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Distinguished Lecturer: Dr. Theresa Weston Defining and Assessing Resilience
November 19, 2024 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Geothermal Systems – Strategies for Success presented by Kevin Austin; Geothermal Heat Exchanger Consultant from Water Furnace International	April 8, 2025 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Stark Tech presentation More Details to Follow
December 5, 2024 6:00 – 9:00 PM	Annual Holiday Party at the Curtiss Hotel, 210 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202	May **tentative**	Trade Show, Tour, and Panel Presentation at the Buffalo History Museum More Details to Follow
January 14, 2025 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Electric Air Cleaners Arrive Under ASHRAE Standard 241	June	Annual Golf Outing More Details to Follow



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





Engineers Week
Feb 16-22, 2025

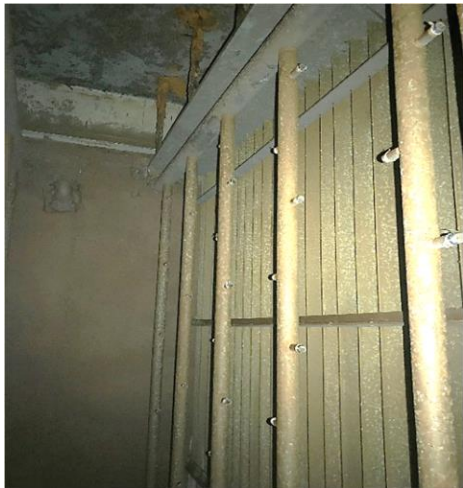
A group of members from the Buffalo Chapter were able to volunteer this week at Buffalo Museum of Science for Engineers Week. It was a very memorable and uplifting experience where the group talked about engineering and did a fun experiment with straws and ping pong balls. From our treasurer, Eben Piazza: “We talked to hundreds of kids, but one stands out. Zion, a 5th grader, who asked a lot of questions about engineering.”
Eben: “you’re asking a lot of Good questions!”
Zion: “I thought asking questions was bad, people tell me I ask to many questions.”
Eben: “no way, that’s how you learn! Engineers ask questions and then figure out answers”
Zion: “Oh that’s cool, maybe I’ll be an engineer.”



A LESSON IN HISTORY



The Rand Building in downtown Buffalo was built in 1929. The building was designed by James Kideney Architects and Kidds Architects. Kidds Architects also designed the Wendt (Buffalo Forge) and Rand houses. The Rand Building was, at the time, Buffalo's tallest skyscraper at 409 ft. Referencing the picture on the right, the building on the left was the German Insurance Company now replaced by the Tishman Building. On the right was the Lafayette Theater that is now a parking lot.



The Rand building is conditioned by a Buffalo Forge 'Duplex Condidal' AHU located in the basement. This systems has patents dating back to 1917. These patents incorporate Carrier's "Flash of Genius – Fog". Theory goes that as air travels through the unit it is sprayed with chilled water to cool it. Once cooled the air is then dried of excess water by the moisture eliminators (seen at left). Carrier invented, developed and designed these eliminators while at Buffalo Forge. The unit at the Rand Building was originally served by an Ammonia Chiller by the Carrier A/C Company.

This unit was still in operation as of about twenty years ago when I saw it working during a pre-bid walk thru. It is no longer operational, however, but is too big to easily remove.

Now, how did Carrier theorize his "Flash of Genius"? The answer: while waiting for his train on a damp foggy platform Carrier's thoughts turned to an idea for a problem he'd been working on for years. *How to control the amount of moisture in the conditioned air.*

As Carrier paced in the near freezing temperature and fog it came to him that though the fog was saturated with moisture it was so cold that it actually didn't contain much moisture. So, if he can saturate air *and* control its temperature at saturation, he could get air with any amount of moisture he wanted in it. He could do this first by passing the air through a fine spray to create fog. He could control the temperature at saturation by controlling the temperature of the air by using hot or cold sprays. As warm air can contains more moisture than cool air. The cold spray mist will be the condensing surface. This now known as Dew Point Control.

Carrier now had his theory, but it needed a research an apparatus to accomplish it. A year later he had time to return to his theory. He first had to find a special nozzle to produce a mist fine enough to saturate the air. He also required eliminators to prevent unevaporated water from being contained in the conditioned air. He ultimately designed an eliminator section and used nozzles similar to those used by farmers to spray insecticides.

The result, some years later, was the Buffalo Forge AHU shown in the photo to the right. From these theories and research modern A/C was born and perfected.

Rick Robinson

ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter Historian

- The source for Carrier's 'Flash of Genius' is his biography titled 'Willis Carrier - FATHER OF AIR CONDITIONING' by Margaret Ingels.



Member Spotlight

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



This month we're going to get to know Jim Price a little bit better. Jim is currently a Facilities Engineer at the University at Buffalo. Jim has been with UB for 16 years. Prior to UB, Jim spent time working for Hatch Associates, Wendel, Erdman Anthony, and IBC. Jim has been an ASHRAE member for 18 years and has previously served in all of the officer roles, including president from 2011 - 2012.

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

A: It was most beneficial when I first joined. I was able to network and get to know many more local people in HVAC field than I had before joining.

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

A: I am particularly proud of starting to offer PDH credits for chapter meetings. This helped increase meeting attendance.

Q: What originally brought you to Western New York?

A: My first job got me to Buffalo and my Buffalo native wife has kept me here.

Q: If you weren't in the HVAC field, what job would you want?

A: If I was not an engineer I would probably enjoy teaching high school physics or industrial arts.

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

A: I have a one day a week tree business and enjoy the climbing and feeling the vibrations of a big saw in my hands and in the ground when a large tree falls.

Q: Was there anything that stands out from your time as chapter president that made your year successful?

A: We started participating in Engineers Week at the Buffalo Science Museum. The interactions with the children may have encouraged them consider studying in the STEM field.

Q: Tell us a little bit about a project you worked on that you really enjoyed.

A: One of my favorite projects was building out a training center in the existing north campus stadium. There were three hydrotherapy pools which involved significant interaction with the NYS department of health. This was my first pool job; I learned a lot.

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

A: A former colleague told me early in my career, "At some time they will ask you to manage a project; don't do it". I have been happy mostly focusing on design and consultant reviews.

Q: What did you want to do when you were young?

A: I wanted to be a chemical engineer like my dad. The second semester of chemistry helped me change my mind.

Q: Any words of wisdom for our members?

A: Get your PE license as soon as you are able. It is a great way to make you stand out among other job candidates. It's easier to accomplish fresh from college. When you are designing a system, make sure you talk with the people that will be maintaining it.

You are Invited!



WNY PMCA · UA 22

WOMEN *in the*
MECHANICAL
INDUSTRY

Spring Mixer!

APRIL 8TH 2025
4:30-7:00PM

THE RIDGE

555 ORCHARD PARK RD,
WEST SENECA, NY 14224

FREE TO ATTEND!

- FOOD
- DRINKS
- FREE WIMI WNY GIFT

REGISTER TO ATTEND!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR
EMAIL JULIE SAWICKI :
JULIE@CONEXBUFF.COM

SUGGESTED ATTENDEES:

WOMEN FROM PMCA MEMBER
COMPANIES, PMCA ASSOCIATE
MEMBER COMPANIES, AND LOCAL 22



Thank you to our Event Sponsors!



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WNY Plumbing and Mechanical TRADESHOW!



WESTERN NEW YORK
ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING AND
MECHANICAL
CONTRACTORS, INC.

APRIL 1ST

Buffalo Riverworks

359 Ganson St, Buffalo, NY 14203

Time: 11:30AM – 5:30PM

90+

**FOOD & DRINK
PROVIDED**

**VENDOR
BOOTHS!**



**FREE ADMISSION!
ENTER RAFFLE TO
WIN PRIZES!**



**BUFFALO PEDAL TOUR
VOUCHER FOR
GROUP OF 10!**



**WIN TICKETS TO A
BANDITS GAME!**

**AND MORE PRIZES
VALUED AT \$1,500!!**

CASPE
American Society of
Plumbing Engineers™
BUFFALO-NIAGARA



Employment Opportunities

Mechanical Engineer

Trautman Associates

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

May 28, 2024

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

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

What we are looking for in our next Mechanical Designer:

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

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

Contact Information

Marisa Scroger

mscroger@trautmanassoc.com



ASHRAE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

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



Building Commissioning Professional (BCxP) Certification

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



Building Energy Assessment Professional (BEAP) Certification

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



Building Energy Modeling Professional (BEMP) Certification

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



Certified HVAC Designer (CHD) Certification

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



Certified Decarbonization Professional (CDP) Certification

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



High-Performance Building Design Professional (HBDP) Certification

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



Healthcare Facility Design Professional (HFDP) Certification

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



Operations and Performance Management Professional (OPMP) Certification

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

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



BUFFALO CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

	Name	Company	Phone	Email
President	Nicole Smith	Cannon Design	716-774-3256	nsmith@cannondesign.com
President-Elect	Stacia Valik	Stark Tech Group	716-693-4490	valiks@starktech.com
Vice President	Elizabeth Hagerty	Cannon Design	716-774-3381	ehagerty@cannondesign.com
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Treasurer	Eben Piazza	Emerson-Swan	716-290-1090	epiazza@emersonswan.com
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Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	Nicole Smith	Cannon Design	716-774-3256	nsmith@cannondesign.com



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING MINUTES

When: Wednesday March 5, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Attendees: Nicole Smith
Eben Piazza
Elizabeth Hagerty
Rick Robinson
Dan Arnold
Charlie Grochowiak
Joshua Mee
Stacia Valik
Nick Farina

Location: Big Ditch Brewery.

[ASHRAE 2024-25 PAOE Guide, Dennis Knight](#)

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

Next Meeting: April 2, 2025.

