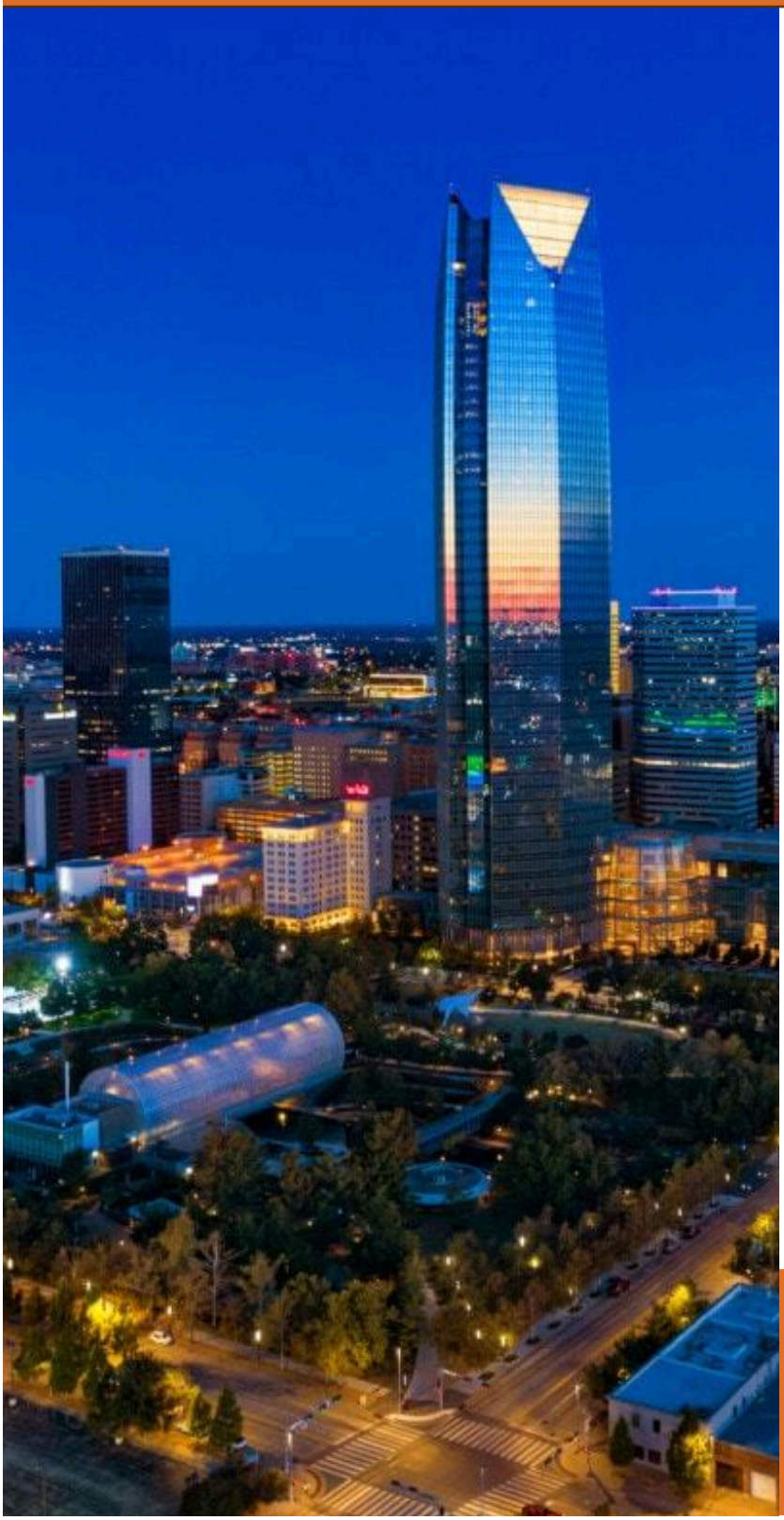
OCT 2026 MONTHLY PUBLICATION ISSUE 2

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

SOU'WESTER



IN THIS ISSUE

2 Message from the President
3 YEA Events
4-5 Student Activities
6 Research & Member Promotion
7 Government Affairs
8 Special Events
9 Historian's Article
10 BOG Minutes
11-12 Chapter Member Directory
13 Chapter Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

COK CHAPTER MEETING

November 4, 2026
ASHRAE 52.1 Explained | Travis Plummer
@Capitol View Event Center | OKC 11:30am to 1pm
Click here to register.



BOG MEETING

November 12, 2026
TBD
11:30am to 1:00pm

STAY CONNECTED

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kale Harper



Thank you to everyone who came out to our October chapter meeting for our technical session on life-cycle cost analysis presented by Jared Wilson. We tried out Hefner Grill as a potential meeting venue this month, and while the food was fantastic (even if a little spicy), our turnout proved the space is just too small for our group.



Moving forward, we will be holding our monthly technical meetings in a larger space at the Capitol View Event Center, located at 5201 N Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, where we will be catering meals in for our chapter lunches.

Our next technical meeting at the Capitol View Event Center will feature Travis Plummer presenting on ASHRAE Standard 52.2, filter types, and MERV ratings. This session will cover practical selection criteria, pressure drop considerations, and how filtration performance affects system operation.



We also have our annual ASHRAE Pickleball Tournament coming up on Friday, November 6, at Northpark Pickleball. Registration starts at 12:30 PM, and all proceeds support ASHRAE Research Promotion and our local Central Oklahoma Chapter programs.

Make sure to get your team registered and come out for a great afternoon on the courts.

Sincerely,
Kale Harper
President, ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Chapter



ASHRAE DID YOU KNOW?

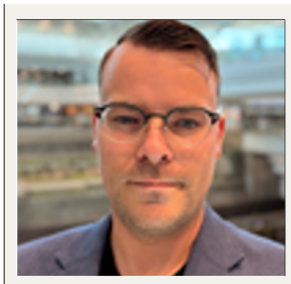
Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium

Save the Date: April 12-13, 2027

Baltimore, MD

Young Engineers Association (YEA)

Joshua Wiens



October Update: Happy Hour Highlights and a PE Study Session on the Horizon

Another month is in the books for the ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Young Engineers in ASHRAE! Here's a quick look at what we've been up to and what's coming next.

October Happy Hour at Rococo

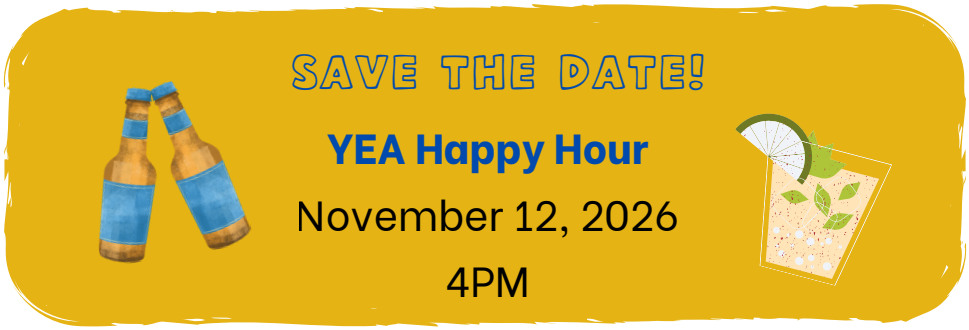
Our monthly happy hour continued after the October Board of Governors (BOG) meeting, this time at Rococo on Western. It was a great chance to unwind after the meeting, and connect with fellow young engineers and chapter members. Thanks to everyone who came out. If you haven't joined us yet, our happy hours always follow immediately after the BOG meeting, so make plans to stick around next month.

Save the Date: PE Study Session on November 17th

Preparing for the PE exam? Mark your calendar for our PE study session on Tuesday, November 17th. Whether you're gearing up for your first attempt or want a refresher, this is a chance to study alongside peers, compare approaches, and tap into the experience of engineers who have already been through it. Stay tuned for additional details, and reach out to the YEA team if you plan to attend. A big thanks to KCL Engineering for allowing us to use their office space to host this event!

Get Involved

YEA is only as strong as the people who show up. If you have ideas for events, topics you'd like covered, or want to help plan future programming, we'd love to hear from you.
See you at the next happy hour!



Student Activities

Korey Wheeler



University Chapters

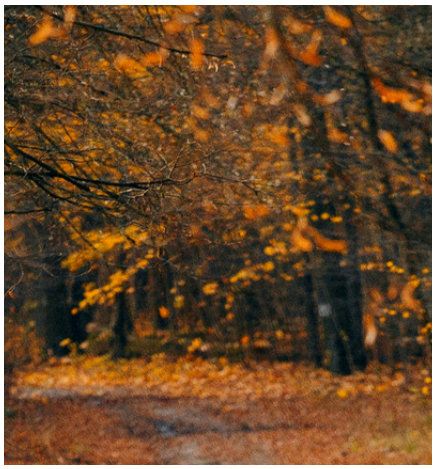
Students in the University of Oklahoma ASHRAE Student Chapter have expressed interest in having local ASHRAE members attend chapter meetings to provide an overview of ASHRAE, discuss career opportunities within the HVAC&R industry, and connect with students. If you are interested in participating, please let me know and we can coordinate scheduling with the chapter. It would be great to have OU alumni attend if possible.

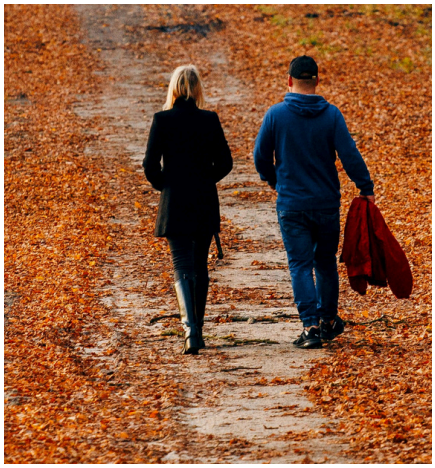
Students at Oklahoma Christian University are continuing to work on their application to charter an official ASHRAE student branch.

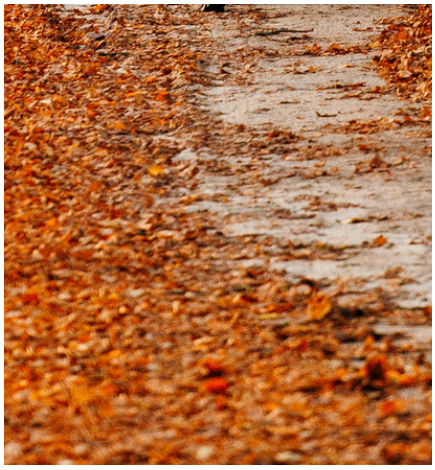
We are also working with several other universities across Oklahoma to build interest in establishing additional student branches. If you are an alumnus of UCO, OBU, or SWOSU and would be willing to speak with engineering students about ASHRAE and career opportunities in our industry, please reach out.

Winter Conference Travel Grants

Following our recent promotion of the ASHRAE Student Travel Grant program and encouragement for students to attend the Winter Conference, several students from our region have submitted applications for the travel grants.







If you plan to attend the conference and are interested in helping coordinate student activities, please let me know. Additionally, if you or your company would like to provide sponsorship support to help offset student travel expenses, your contribution would be greatly appreciated and will help increase student participation in this valuable professional development opportunity.

K-12 Outreach

Our first K-12 outreach event will be the Oklahoma City Public Schools 8th Grade Career Expo, taking place November 12-13, 2026, at Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC).

The Career Expo is designed to help students explore potential career paths and better understand the educational opportunities available to them. During the event, students will participate in a career-planning session focused on selecting meaningful pathways of study that align with their interests and future goals. They will also have the opportunity to interact directly with professionals from a wide range of industries and career fields. By the conclusion of the event, each student will receive a personalized course-planning guide outlining educational steps that can help them achieve their chosen career objectives. More than 2,000 eighth-grade students participate.

ASHRAE will host an interactive exhibit booth featuring the new HVAC Hero video game, along with educational resources highlighting the many career opportunities available within the HVAC&R industry. The event runs from 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on both days.

A volunteer sign-up survey will be distributed soon. We hope to have multiple volunteers available during each time slot to represent the diverse career paths within our industry. Ideally, each session would include representation from areas such as consulting engineering, equipment sales, manufacturing, and contracting. This will help students gain a broader understanding of the many professional opportunities available within HVAC&R.

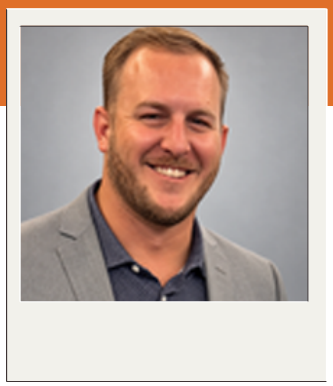
VOLUNTEERS & SPONSORS NEEDED!

- **Volunteers to help coordinate student activities**
- **Companies to sponsor students to help offset student travel**

If interested contact Korey Wheeler: khwheeler@kopeakengineering.com

RESEARCH AND PROMOTIONS

Matt Akins





Hello ASHRAE Central OK!

We finished the 2025-26 year with $27,000 donated to Research Promotion! So many thanks to all donors and everyone who contributed or participated in an event that supported Research Promotion.

2026-27 is on and we're on our way to our donation goal!

We encourage our ASHRAE members to donate a gift to our chapter's RP fund. If you would like to make a donation you can visit the ASHRAE website or click **HERE.**

Matthew Akins
matt@rbakins.com

Membership Promotion

Will Thompson



ASHRAE is more than a professional organization—it is a community of individuals committed to advancing the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration industry through education, technical innovation, collaboration, and leadership. As our industry continues to evolve, growing our ASHRAE membership and encouraging others to get involved are essential to strengthening our profession and preparing the next generation of industry leaders.

The future of our industry depends on knowledge sharing, collaboration, and continued professional development. By expanding our membership and encouraging active participation, we can help strengthen ideas that drive innovation, energy efficiency, sustainability, indoor environmental quality, and the advancement of HVAC&R technologies.



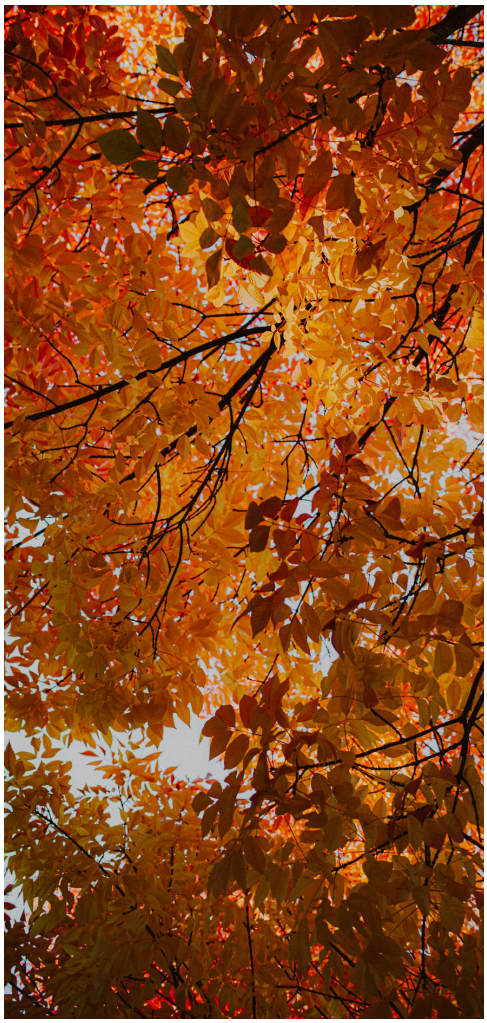
Every member can play a role in this effort. You do not need to hold a leadership position to make an impact. A conversation with a coworker, an invitation to a meeting, or a few hours spent volunteering can help someone discover a professional community that supports their goals and contributes to the future of our industry.

Let's make membership growth and engagement a shared priority. Think of one person in your professional network who could benefit from ASHRAE, reach out to them, and invite them to get involved. By sharing our enthusiasm and creating welcoming opportunities for participation, we can build a stronger, more connected ASHRAE community!

CTTC Report

John Wilmore





November's Topic: ASHRAE 52.2 Explained
Presenter: Travis Plummer

Join us for an informative session breaking down ASHRAE Standard 52.2, the industry standard for evaluating air filtration performance in HVAC systems.

Travis Plummer will explain how filters are tested and rated, the meaning of MERV ratings, and how filtration efficiency impacts indoor air quality, system performance, and energy consumption.

We'll discuss the differences between filter ratings, common misconceptions, and practical considerations when selecting and specifying air filters for commercial HVAC applications.

Key Takeaways:

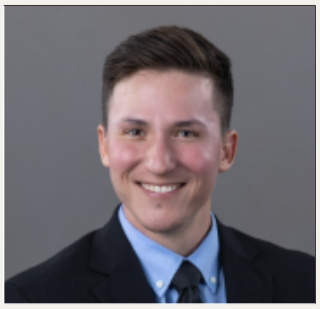
- Understanding ASHRAE 52.2 and MERV ratings
- How filtration efficiency is measured
- The relationship between filtration, pressure drop, and energy consumption
- Selecting the right filters for commercial HVAC applications
- Common filtration specification mistakes and how to avoid them

This session is designed for engineers, contractors, facility managers, and HVAC professionals looking to better understand air filtration standards and their real-world applications.

October Chapter Meeting Summary

November's Topic: Life-Cycle Cost Analysis
Presenter: Jared Wilson D.C.E.P, P.E.

Jared Wilson, pictured on the right, walked us through a deep dive on life-cycle cost analysis based on NIST Handbook 135 at Hefner Grill. The session looked at how engineers can account for long-term costs when comparing mechanical systems and design options. 32 members and 13 guests attended.



MEP2040 & ASHRAE Engineers

Caleb Deck



Mechanical engineering design often involves looking at the amount of energy used in the building, often developing energy models and helping guide owners in making better decisions for the long-term cost-effectiveness of their buildings. But how often do engineers consider the impact of the materials themselves that we put into the building? When it comes to environmental effects of a building, we shouldn't just think of the energy use and operational emissions, but the embodied emissions that are involved in manufacturing, transporting, installing, and part of the life of our ductwork, piping, and particularly our refrigerants!

MEP2040 is a voluntary initiative that encourages designers to both model their whole life-cycle emissions for MEP systems and gives guidance on how to improve our designs in this area. MEP2040 has several commitments:

a) to develop carbon reduction plan b) request environmental product declarations (EPDs) when possible c) join in lessons learned cohort calls and d) report modeled whole life-cycle carbon when possible (this part is optional!). While the idea of MEP2040 may sound like you're signing your life away to get net zero buildings in an impossible timeframe, it's really just a group of designers who are working towards an aspirational goal of better buildings and want to gain as much data as possible to see where our industry is at right now.

This last week I attended a conference where MEP2040 members presented several times. The pilot round of the program only had 19 projects logged, so the data set is limited. One of the studies showed that the embodied carbon of the MEP systems actually comprised 25% of whole building carbon, while enclosure was 40% and lifetime operational emissions was only 30% of building emissions. While we do want to shave energy usage, the amount of ductwork, piping, types of refrigerant, and installation quality can have MAJOR impacts that are fairly easy to mitigate. Of the MEP embodied emissions, refrigerant leakage can make up 50-70% of the emissions of a building.

From a government affairs perspective, it's crucial that our design engineers understand the impacts of MEP materials so we can have informed discussions with our elected leaders as they help to develop codes and standards that our entire industry must adhere to. The more educated we can become in these areas, the more effective our communications can be when those making bills are deciding what is most critical to address. This has already informed decisions such as the refrigerant changeover of 2025/2026, limiting the GWP of refrigerants. Making seemingly small design decisions at the beginning of a project, or tweaking a specification can have major implications for the next 40-60 years of the building life-cycle.

You can check out more details on the MEP2040 project here, where you can also find a design guidebook, step-by-step process for modeling, and a gap analysis of their v1 pilot program by clicking ***HERE.***

As always, feel free to reach out to me at caleb.deck@haskell.com or any of us on the ASHRAE committees for further info as well!



SAVE THE DATE!

Day on the Hill

Week of March 3, 2027

Contact Caleb on ways to get involved!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Michele Lefebvre

Happy Thanksgiving



Thank you for allowing us to serve you again this 2026-2027 year.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me at mlefebvre@rbakins.com or Ashley Hayden at ahayden@rbakins.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pickleball Tournament
November 6, 2026
Click **HERE** to register.



Cornhole Tournament
March 26, 2027

Clay Shoot
May 14, 2027

Historian's Update

Dusty Stoabs



INTERVIEW WITH CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. THOMPSON



William R. Thompson

Dusty: Thank you for taking the time to answer a few questions about yourself and your year serving as ASHRAE Chapter President. First, could you tell me a little about your background – where you grew up and went to school?

Will: Dusty, thanks for having me. I am from Oklahoma City, OK, and graduated from Bishop McGuinness High School. I got my Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma State University.

Dusty: How did you get into the HVAC industry, and specifically into the product rep/sales business?

Will: Fell ass backwards into the HVAC industry. Took (1) HVAC class in college, and pretty much knew I would not get into HVAC because I was not interested in consulting. Fast forward a couple years later, and I got my first job at Captive Aire Systems. A few months after, I met my boss Jeff Forman and have been at Mechanical Sales for over 8 years.

Dusty: Can you give us a feel for your day-to-day activities at Mechanical Sales Midwest? Do you call on mostly engineers or contractors? Are there any particular products that you specialize in?

Will: I call on both consulting engineers and mechanical contractors. Every day is different in the rep business, but I like the balance of customer facing, being in the field, and office work. Being in the industry less than 10-years I wouldn't say I'm a true expert at anything, but if I can't figure it out myself or need to take a deeper dive, I know a lot of people I can ask for help.

Dusty: What originally led you to join ASHRAE? Was there someone who talked about membership to you?
Will: It was a requirement to join ASHRAE and attend meetings while working at Captive Aire, but I didn't start getting involved in BOG until I was at Mechanical Sales Midwest. Jeff Forman being the Central OK president had a big impact on me and is why I started getting involved.

Dusty: You answered the call of the Nomination Committee to go through the chairs during the 2022-23 year while you were serving on the Board of Governors. At that time, had you worked on any committees?

Will: I worked on the special events committee in 2021 and planned a pickleball event that year. It was held on a Saturday morning, and there was complementary food and drinks (non-alcoholic). I was harshly informed that not including alcoholic drinks was the worst idea I've ever had and am still reminded of it to this day! Lol, all jokes aside, it was a great learning experience, but when I first started running through the chairs, I was very inexperienced and did not know a lot about ASHRAE. The big shoes to fill were intimidating at first, but I felt humbled to have been approached to run through the chairs.

Visit our website to read the rest of Dusty's interview with Will Thompson. Click the link HERE.

Board of Governors Meeting

October 2026

Call to Order

Presiding Officer: Kale Harper

Time: 3:10pm

Location: Rococo on Western

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Position	Name	Present
President	Kale Harper	☒
President-Elect	Michael Akins	☐
Vice President	Will Thompson	☒
Secretary	Joshua Wiens	☐
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas	☒
Governor	David Halcomb	☐
Governor	Joe Sanders	☒
Governor	Dusty Stoabs	☒

Voting members present in person: Quorum: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Motions 1 through 3 are voted on only if there is an objection.

MOTION 1: *To approve the BOG meeting minutes for meeting dated* **9/17/2026.**

- Moved: Joe Sanders
- Second: Stephanie Thomas

Reports of Officers and Board of Governors

Officer	Report
President	1. Need to approve August and September BOG meeting minutes a. Joe Sanders makes a motion to accept September 2026 BOG meeting minutes, Stephanie Thomas seconds the motion. b. Move to table October 2026 meeting minutes to next meeting 2. PAOE points look good, please continue to add points for your respective positions. GAC at zero, but will boost after Day on the Hill in the spring 3. Please continue to communicate with your RVC's 4. Speaking opportunity – Korey Wheeler wants to speak at Clinton High School and Bishop McGuinness about getting involved in ASHRAE in college.
President-Elect	No report
Vice President	No report
Secretary	No report
Treasurer	1. Bank fee for stock payment, voided old check for Flags4Golf; got dinged $32.50 for voided check so budget came in a little higher. $12,000.00 check for RP from golf tournament will be written in November or December 2026. Kale Harper made a motion to accept Sept/October Treasurer's report, Dusty Stoabs seconded the motion
Governors	No report

MOTION 2: *To accept the treasurer's report [presented / amended].*

- Moved: Kale Harper
- Second: Dusty Stoabs

Reports of Standing Committees (2-minute report)

Committee	Chair	Report:
CTTC	Jon Wilmore	Absent – Proxy: Heather Martin 1. Travis Plummer speaking on filters and MERV ratings for November 2026 meeting. December meeting uncertain, but need to get a DL scheduled
Communications	Heather Martin	1. At Par on PAOE, and MBO's have been turned in
GGAC	Caleb Deck	Absent – no report
Historian	Dusty Stoabs	1. Article is ready for next month's newsletter 2. Need to reach out to RVC
Membership Promotion	Will Thompson / Ian Fritts	1. Checked in with RVC 2. MBO's have been turned in 3. Met with Guernsey and getting their last engineer signed up with ASHRAE 4. Meeting with Infra on Friday 5. Flintco in the process of signing up new members
Research Promotion	Matthew Akins	Absent – no report
Student Activities, Scholarship	Korey Wheeler	Absent – no report
YEA	Joshua Wiens	Absent – no report
Honors and Awards	Scott Sanders	Absent – no report
Newsletter	Rebecca Cawyer	Absent – no report
Refrigeration	Gavin Swenson	1. Reached out to Boom Town for ice cream plant tour. Have not heard back
Special Events	Michele Lefebvre, Ashley Hayden, Ty Klakulak	1. Only 9 teams signed up for Pickleball tournament 2. Need 3 more court sponsorships 3. Call around to get teams signed up
DEI	Vacant	-
Sustainability	Vacant	-

Unfinished Business and General Orders

#	Date Originated	Action Today
1	8/20/2026	Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/18/2026 Amendment: Update time from 3:30am to 3:30pm **MOTION 3:** *To approve the BOG meeting minutes for meeting dated* **6/17/2026.** • Moved to approve as amended: Joe Sanders • Second: Stephanie Thomas

New Business

#	Proposer	Description/Discussion
1	Kale Harper	Proposed to move the acceptance of the 10/07/2026 meeting minutes to 11/19/2026 BOG meeting. Additional detail for announcements to be added.
2	Kale Harper	Overall 93 for Hefner Grill meeting, but not good feedback about space and how tight it was. Next meeting is a City View Event Center and have to pick a catering group. Looking to keep it at $20-25 per head. Holds 300 people and round tables of 7-10
3	Kale Harper	Discussion: Winter Event - Cancellation
4	Kale Harper	DL Allocation – proper process for booking DL. Almost deadline so allocations need to be submitted fast
5	Kale Harper	OKC PS – show how to set up LinkedIn profiles

Adjournment

MOTION 4: *To adjourn.*

- Moved: Dusty Stoabs
- Second: Joe Sanders

Adjourned Time: 4:03pm

Board of Governors & Chapter Chairs

Sept. 2026 - June 2027

Board of Directors

ASHRAE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER | 2026-2027 SOCIETY YEAR

Chapter leadership, professional development, and community outreach.

OFFICERS



PRESIDENT

Kale Harper, P.E.

Company: IES
Phone: (405) 919-1929
Email: kaleharper@icloud.com



PRESIDENT ELECT

Michael Akins

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 761-7733
Email: makins@rbakins.com



VICE PRESIDENT

Will Thompson, P.E.

Company: Mechanical Sales Midwest
Phone: (405) 441-2019
Email: wthompson@mechsales.com



TREASURER

Stephanie Thomas, P.E.

Company: Moxify Engineering LLC
Phone: (405) 254-5038
Email: sthomas@moxifyllc.com



SECRETARY

Joshua Wiens, P.E.

Company: Mechanical Sales Midwest
Phone: (405) 420-3698
Email: jwiens-pe@outlook.com

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



BOARD MEMBER

Joe Sanders

Company: Trane
Phone: Not Listed
Email: joe.sanders@TRANE.com



BOARD MEMBER

Michael Halcomb

Company: ES2
Phone: (405) 600-8818
Email: mhalcomb@es2built.com



BOARD MEMBER

Dusty Stoabs, P.E.

Company: Jackson Streets MEP
Phone: (405) 338-2271
Email: dusty.stoabs@jacksonstreets.com

Board of Governors & Chapter Chairs

Sept. 2026 - June 2027

COMMITTEE CHAIRS



CTTC

Jon Wilmore

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 947-6502
Email: jwilmore@rbakins.com



YEA

Joshua Wiens, P.E.

Company: Mechanical Sales Midwest
Phone: (405) 420-3698
Email: jwiens-pe@outlook.com



COMMUNICATIONS

Heather Martin

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 947-6502
Email: hmartin@rbakins.com



RESEARCH PROMOTION

Matt Akins

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 227-6621
Email: mattakins@rbakins.com



REFRIGERATION

Gavin Swenson, P.E.

Company: KCL Engineering
Phone: (405) 795-7051
Email: gswenson@kclengineering.com



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Caleb Deck, P.E.

Company: Benham, Haskell
Phone: (405) 840-2931
Email: caleb.deck@gmail.com



HISTORIAN

Dusty Stoabs, P.E.

Company: Jackson Streets MEP
Phone: (405) 338-2271
Email: dusty.stoabs@jacksonstreets.com



NEWSLETTER

Rebecca Cawyer

Company: AAON
Phone: (580) 512-1112
Email: rebecca.cawyer@aaon.com



HONORS AND AWARDS

Scott Sanders, P.E.

Company: Alvine Engineeing
Phone: (405) 936-3480
Email: ssanders@alvine.com



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Korey Wheeler, P.E.

Company: Kopeak Engineeing
Phone: (405) 208-2695
Email: kwheeler@kopeakengineering.com



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Brian Worthen, P.E.

Company: Alvine Engineeing
Phone: Not Listed
Email: bworthen@alvine.com



SPECIAL EVENTS

Michele Lefebvre

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 802-4347
Email: mlefebvre@rbakins.com



SPECIAL EVENTS

Ashley Hayden

Company: RB Akins
Phone: (405) 947-6502
Email: ahayden@rbakins.com



SPECIAL EVENTS

Ty Klakulak

Company: Engineered Equipment
Phone: (405) 534-1882
Email: tklakulak@eei-ok.com



MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Will Thompson, P.E.

Company: Mechanical Sales Midwest
Phone: (405) 441-2019
Email: wthompson@mechsales.com



MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Ian Fritts

Company: Mechanical Sales Midwest
Phone: Not Listed
Email: ifritts@mechsales.com

COK Chapter Calendar

Sept. 2026 - June 2027

OCTOBER 7
CHAPTER MEETING

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

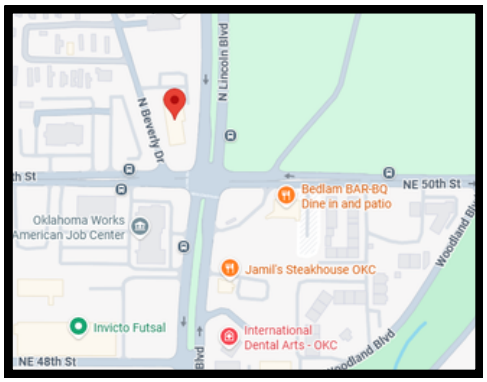
HEFNER GRILL

OCTOBER 22
BOG MEETING

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

HEFNER GRILL

NEW MEETING LOCATION!
CAPITOL VIEW EVENT CENTER



5201 N LINCOLN BLVD | OKC

NOVEMBER 4
CHAPTER MEETING

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

CAPITOL VIEW EVENT CENTER

NOVEMBER 12
BOG MEETING

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

TBD

DECEMBER 2
CHAPTER MEETING

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

CAPITOL VIEW EVENT CENTER

DECEMBER 10
BOG MEETING

3:00 PM- 4:00 PM

TBD

DECEMBER
WINTER FAMILY NIGHT

TBD

JANUARY 6
CHAPTER MEETING

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

CAPITOL VIEW EVENT CENTER

JANUARY 21
BOG MEETING

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

TBD



FEBRUARY
SPOUSES' NIGHT OUT

TBD

FEBRUARY 3
CHAPTER MEETING

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

CAPITOL VIEW EVENT CENTER

FEBRUARY 18
BOG MEETING

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

TBD