

September Newsletter

President’s Welcome

Central Pennsylvania ASHRAE Members,

Hello and welcome back to another year of ASHRAE! I'd like to start off by thanking last year's President, Matt Faller, for his excellent leadership and dedication to the Chapter. I'd also like to thank all of our sponsors from 2025-2026 who made it one of our best years in recent memory. I have every reason to believe we can grow our Chapter even stronger in 2026-2027!

I hope everyone was able to enjoy their summer, and enjoy some of the events ASHRAE had to offer. Our annual Golf Outing was held in July and, despite the air quality concerns, it was a fantastic event with over 100 golfers participating in our year-end celebration. The Region III CRC was held in August at the neighboring National Capital Chapter and provided training workshops and recognition opportunities for all of our hard-working volunteers.

Our first Chapter Meeting of the year will be Wednesday, September 16th at the Red Lion Hotel in Harrisburg. Dr. Greg Pavlak from Penn State will be giving his presentation, "Smart Systems and Controls for Healthy, Grid-Integrated Buildings". I hope you will all be able to attend. Keep an eye on our Chapter calendar for other meetings and events we have planned throughout the year.

As always, the Board of Governors is here to serve your needs in Central PA. Please feel free to reach out if you have any ideas, questions, or topics of discussion you'd like to see the Chapter address this year, or if you're interested in getting involved with Chapter leadership or in any of our committees. Our BOG meetings are typically virtual lunchtime meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month and are open to all members. We want your voice to be heard and appreciate all input and participation.

Here's to a great year of Central PA ASHRAE!

Thank you,
Connor Hitchings, EIT, NCTI
Chapter President

Upcoming Event

September 16th
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Dr. Greg Pavlak presents on:
Smart Systems and Controls for
Healthy Buildings

October 16th
Technical Presentation and JADEC
Tour

October 21th
October Chapter Meeting

October TBD
Fall Cornhole Tournament

**Details and Registrations
can be found at:**

www.centralpaashrae.com

Officers & Board of Governors

Connor Hitchings	President
Brendon Little	President-Elect & CTT Chair
Michael Brame	Vice President
John Hayden	Treasurer & GA Chair
Makayla Ianuzzi	Secretary
Kyle Koser	Webmaster
John Pipa	Student Activities Chair
Aidan McFall & Autumn Thiele	YEA Chair
Sam Sterner	MP Chair
John Buckley	RP Chair
Matt Faller	Historian
Ryan Kerstetter	BOG
Ann Swartzbaugh	BOG

Connect with us on LinkedIn:
[https://www.linkedin.com/
groups/4087609/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4087609/)

Interested in getting involved?

**We are always looking for
energized members to join the
Board or a Committee.**

Reach out to Connor Hitchings:
president@centralpaashrae.com

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September Meeting Overview

Please join us on **Wednesday, September 16th** for a dinner chapter meeting and technical presentation. The meeting will be held from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Dr. Greg Pavlak will be presenting on Data Center Acoustics.



Greg Pavlak, Ph.D. is an associate professor of Architectural Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University whose research focuses on building mechanical systems and controls. His research interests include smart building systems, building-to-grid integration, and healthy buildings.

New sensors, devices, and algorithms are making it possible to optimize building operations around a multitude of objectives. Buildings can respond to external signals from the electric grid to help alleviate local and regional constraints. Buildings can also respond to signals from within the building to improve occupant health and well-being. This talk will present several recent developments in smart building systems. Fundamentals will be discussed, alongside challenges and practical aspects for real-world deployment.

Registrations for this event can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings and Events

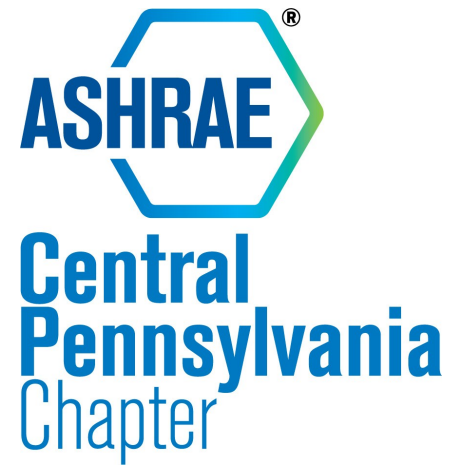
October Meetings:

The October Chapter Meeting will be held on 10/21, with Dr. Bill Bahnfleth presenting HVAC and Airborne Infectious Diseases. Location TBD.

Central PA and Baltimore Chapters YEA will be hosting a technical presentation, networking event, and JADEC lab tour in October, tentatively October 16th.

The BOG is also planning the annual Fall Cornhole Tournament for the month of October.

Be on the lookout for details regarding these events in the coming weeks!



Society Corner

A new Society year has commenced and the new Society President has taken the helm. Sarah Maston has made her Society Year theme “*Changing the Game: Retrofitting for Resilience*”.

Our Board and Chapter wish her the best of luck in her new role as Society President!

For more information, visit [ASHRAE.org](https://www.ashrae.org).

Fall 2026 YEA Leadership Weekend

Minneapolis, MN
November 6-8, 2026

Registration is NOW OPEN until September 23, 2026!

Leadership Weekend Objectives

- Leadership
- Networking
- Communication
- Professional Development

YEA Leadership Weekend is conducted twice per year:

- Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon
- Optional Technical Tour
- Maximum of 30 participants accepted on first-come first-served basis

More information/registration details here: [YEA Leadership Weekend \(ashrae.org\)](https://www.ashrae.org)

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ASHRAE Central PA 2026–2027 Meetings

Date	Meeting Details	Location
Wednesday, Sept 16th	Smart Systems and Controls for Healthy, Grid-Integrated Buildings—Dr. Greg Pavlak at 5pm	Red Lion Hotel, Harrisburg
Wednesday, October 21st	HVAC and Airborne Infectious Diseases—Dr. Bill Bahnfleth at 5pm	TBD
October, TBD	Fall Cornhole Tournament	TBD
Friday, October 16th (tentative)	Chilled Water Systems 101—YEA Speaker, Networking, and JADEC Lab Tour Event	JADEC, New Freedom PA
Tuesday, November 17th	EnCon Joint Meeting with AFE, AEE, GBC	Armstrong World Industries, Lancaster PA
Wednesday, December 16th	Virtual Lunch Meeting—TBD	Virtual
January, TBD	Hershey Bears Game w/ Dinner + YEA Happy Hour	Giant Center, Hershey PA
Wednesday, January 20th	January Chapter Meeting—TBD	TBD
January 23st–27th	ASHRAE Winter Conference & AHR EXPO	Chicago, IL
Wednesday, February 17th	February Chapter Meeting—TBD	TBD
Wednesday, March 10th	<i>“Changing the Game: Retrofitting for Resilience.”</i> - Society President Sarah Maston	TBD
Monday, April 12th	Dinner Mtg - Student's Night, Penn State Presentations	TBD
Wednesday, May 19th	May Chapter Meeting—TBD	TBD
May, TBD	Harrisburg Senator's Game	City Island
June 12th-16th	ASHRAE Annual Conference	New Orleans, LA
June, TBD	Annual Golf Outing	TBD



Scholarship Update

Attention Students

The Central PA Chapter of ASHRAE would like to congratulate the ASHRAE Region III Setty Family Foundation Scholarship recipient:

Jackson Sharp
Mechanical Engineering
Penn State University

For all current and prospective students, ASHRAE is offering a total of 40 Society Scholarships of up to \$10,000 for each qualified student for the upcoming 2027-2028 academic year.

More information on ASHRAE Society scholarships as well as the application can be found [here](#).

Scholarship applications for the 2027-2028 academic year are due **December 1st, 2026!**

Donate to Research Promotion!

You can direct your gift to health-related topics or any other ASHRAE program.

ASHRAE needs your support to continue our work to keep HVAC&R safe and healthy for the world.

If you would like to donate online, click [here](#).

Choose ASHRAE Research and indicate that you are a member of the **Central PA Chapter** in the contributor information field.

Thank you!