

# Houston Chapter Historians and Awards 1975-2019

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“The ASHRAE History Committee was formed in 1973, but the seeds were sown during the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASHRAE in 1969 when the search for historical information to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> was deemed important to ASHRAE leadership. When the Historical Committee was formed it reported directly to the Board as did all committees. Councils did not exist until the late 70s.

## **BACKGROUND**

- The Historical Committee (HC) was established in 1973 after ASHRAE’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and reported to the Board of Directors,
- 1973 under Regions Council,
- 1975 the BOD approved the requirement of a Historian for each Chapter,
- 1978 the position of Regional Historian was established to “coordinate historical activities on a Regional basis”.
- Regional Historians were gradually inducted into HC as members.
- During 1993-1995 the maximum membership of the Committee was 9.
- In 1987 HC was moved to PEC as part of Society restructuring as its focus was deemed to be primarily in publishing and education.
- In June 1995 PEAC expressed a concern that HC was too focused on Regional and Chapter concerns and neglecting its mission.
- In 1995 an international member was added. A request that Committee strength be raised to 13 members was defeated at PEC due to fiscal impact.
- In June 1997 PEC reviewed scope and size of HC, as a result the BOD reduced the strength of HC to 6 members.
- Between 1999 and 2003 Regions Council discussed a move to organize an annual meeting of Regional Historians, this was defeated.
- In 2004 Members Council moved that Regional Historians be made Non-Voting members of HC.
- In 2017 HC requested expansion to 9 members, which it currently has.

Clarence Fleming former Houston Chapter Historian came in the 1975 as a Regional Society Historian. He started the Gold Ribbon of History Award which at first was primarily a regional award, saying Membership has the Blue Ribbon. We need a ribbon in History. He was one of the first regional/chapter historians on the committee. (Steve Comstock, Special Publications Editor)

In the thirty-four years since the creation of a Society History Committee that established in 1975 the Chapter Historian position for all chapters, the Houston Chapter has had only six Chapter Historians. Clarence Fleming and Bruce Flaniken Have served as the Region VIII Regional Vice Chair of History.

## **VIII Historical Gold Ribbon**

1975-1983	Clarence Fleming Historian
1983-1984	Clarence Fleming, Historian
1984-1985	Clarence Fleming, Historian
1986-1997	Clarence Fleming, Historian
1988-1989	Clarence Fleming, Historian
1989-1990	with Star Award, Bruce Flaniken Historian
1990-1991	with Star Award, Bruce Flaniken Historian
1991-1992	with Star Award, Bruce Flaniken Historian

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1992-1993	Bruce Flaniken, Historian
1993-1994	Bruce Flaniken, Historian
1994-1995	Bruce Flaniken, Historian
1998-1999	with Star Award, Henry C. "Hank" Fry, Historian
1999-2000	with Star Award, Henry C. "Hank" Fry, Historian
2000-2001	with Star Award, Henry C. "Hank" Fry, Historian
2001-2002	with Star Award, Pat Powell, Historian
2008-2009	Neil Silverman, Historian
2009-2010	Neil Silverman, Historian
2012-2013	Jeremy Chase Williamson, Historian
2013-2014	Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus
2014-2015	Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus
2015-2016	Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus
2016-2017	Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus
2018-2019	Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus

## **Best Region VIII Historical Presentation**

1992-93, Oldest Operating HVAC&R Installations Old Humble Building and the Jefferson Theater

Bruce Flaniken, Historian 1995

## **Lou Flagg Historian Award**

*The Lou Flagg Historian Award* recognizes a Chapter Historian Gold Ribbon Award winner for compiling information on outstanding historical projects or persons related to HVAC&R industry. The following Houston Chapter members have received this award:

This Society History Gold Ribbon History report was used to nominate "**Dr. Frederick Ernst (Pal) Giesecke as an ASHRAE Hall of Fame Nominee in 2019**".

Society History Lou Flagg Award Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus 2018

This Society History Gold Ribbon History report was used to nominate "**Andrew Muhl as a Pioneer of Refrigeration for ASHRAE in 2015**".

Society History Lou Flagg Award Bruce L. Flaniken, Historian Emeritus 2014