

# Quick Links

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# ASHRAE Houston Chapter's THE HOT AIR RECORDER

78th Volume

No. II

## September

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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## Monthly Meeting

Join us **in person** at AIA Houston or online from 4:30-6PM on September 26th as we welcome Kurt Neubek to discuss LEAN Design and Construction Practices for our September meeting. Food will be provided as part of admission to the meeting for those attending. [Register here.](#)

## YEA Happy Hour

YEA's first happy hour of the year will be held at McIntyre's Downtown from 5:30-7:30 on September 30th!

Is graciously sponsoring  
**10 Memberships**  
for the 2021-2022 year!

## 2021-2022 ASHRAE DIRECTORY

\$175 for the first page, \$125 for the second page, and \$100 for each additional page

Email [gtinkler@pagethink.com](mailto:gtinkler@pagethink.com) if interested in participating

### Your (NEW!) Membership Benefits

Full Members and Associates can now select 1 of the following:

eLearning Course 150 to select from	OR	ASHRAE Standard 100+ to choose from	OR	ASHRAE Handbook PDF version of the most recent Handbook
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Additional Member Benefits by the Numbers

12 month subscription to ASHRAE Journal	&	25% discount on 400 publications in the Bookstore	&	2000+ free resources for members in the ASHRAE Technology Portal
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Get Discounted Pricing on:

350+ ASHRAE Learning Institute (ALI) Courses held annually	&	7 ASHRAE Certifications	&	6+ Conferences held annually
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50,000+ Members    190+ Chapters    15 Regions across the world

Reach out to Shannon Yancey at 832-523-6619 or [Shannon.yancey@caleffi.com](mailto:Shannon.yancey@caleffi.com)



### ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP BANNERS ARE BEING PURCHASED AT THE END OF THE MONTH!

Commit now and pay later. Contact Catherine Tinkler [ctinkler@foscd.com](mailto:ctinkler@foscd.com) today!



Houston ASHRAE'S DiA co-chair Lauren Ramos was selected as a *Houston Business Journal's* 2021 Woman Who Means Business!

Read more [here](#) and congratulate Lauren!



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Houston ASHRAE chapter!

Let me begin by saying that I'm honored to serve as your president this year. As many (but perhaps not everyone) of you are aware, the path to president begins four years prior to assuming the role. Beginning with secretary, then progressing to treasurer, vice president and research promotions chair, president elect and CTC chair, you then finally make take over the president's position. I've been a member of ASHRAE for over two decades, and in those years I have a relied on the work done by the society for much of my daily activities from the fundamentals to the more recent airborne infectious disease control guidelines. I've gained a tremendous appreciation over the last four years of the depth of commitment, excellence in thought and research, and global leadership and advocacy this organization provides to our small planet. It is in no small way responsible for the quality of the indoor environment and health that we all take for granted.

It's safe to say that we all hoped that by this time we would be meeting in person without masks and without fear of catching or spreading COVID-19. We have not yet reached that mile stone, but I'm confident that we will. In the meantime we will continue to lead by example with our Houston chapter. Our first meeting was held virtually due to the increase in case it is related to the Delta variant. It wasn't a fun decision to make, but it was the right decision. Going forward we will have activities together this year which is very exciting. We are planning to have our September meeting in person at AIA with mask and social distancing guidelines laid out by the CDC, as well as an online attendance option.

By the time you read this letter we will have held our first research promotion fundraising event, the fall sporting clay tournament. I'd like to thank all of our generous sponsors and participants for helping make the event a success! We will also have our annual golf tournaments, and Houston has the honor of hosting our CRC for region VIII, which will be held in April in the Woodlands. If you have not already purchased an annual sponsorship, I would encourage you reach out to Catherine Tinkler so you can take full advantage of our events this year.

The strength of our chapter is only as strong as our volunteer base. I encourage each of you to engage in something new in the chapter this year, by participating in an event, supporting a committee such as Diversity and ASHRAE, a new student chapter, or simply attending another meeting or two. I look forward to seeing you.



Josh Vanlandingham

Houston ASHRAE President  
2021-2022

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## MONTHLY MEETING

### GET TO KNOW THE SPEAKER: KURT NEUBEK

# LEAN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

Kurt is one of the few architects in the country specializing in Strategic Planning and Healthcare/Medical architecture. As Page's firm-wide Healthcare Practice Leader, he works with clients and colleagues across the U.S. and internationally. He has delivered tens of millions of square feet of projects across the globe.

His core services include strategic planning, strategic facility planning, predesign, feasibility studies, lean six sigma consulting, facility programming, requirements management, master planning and medical planning.

Kurt is a Registered Architect, a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects, a Fellow in the Health Facility Institute, a Certified Facility Manager, LEED Accredited Professional for sustainable design, has earned his Evidence-based Design Accreditation and Certification, and a Six Sigma Black Belt. He is also a frequent speaker at professional conferences, having given more than 80 presentations at regional, national and international conferences. He is also the Past Chairman of the Health Facility Institute.



#### Learning Objectives:

- Gain an understanding of the breakdowns with current project delivery methods, discover the goals and benefits of implementing Lean.
- Understand the Foundation of Lean as Six Tenets and identify the Eight Wastes as relevant to design and construction.
- Recognize that Lean is a shift in thinking and behaviors leading to high-performing teams.
- Discover key Lean practices and tools which result in increased collaboration and improved project outcomes.

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SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2021

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\$25- ADVANCED REGISTRATION

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\$30- AFTER 4PM SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

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\$35- ALL NON-MEMBERS

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

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## LAST MONTH'S MEETING



We were fortunate to welcome Dr. Birol Kilkis to our September meeting to present on Exergy Based Optimum Tri-Generation Retrofit for a Hospital, which focused on the exergy-rational retrofitting of electromechanical systems in a hospital building. He pointed out that energy spending and maintenance costs in hospital buildings are very intensive, and the solutions must go beyond known methods like energy savings, renewables, and building insulation. He went over a case study of a trigeneration system with a natural-gas biogas mix of fuel in a 900-bed hospital, and summarized the new analysis methods about the energy savings and CO2 emissions reduction potential. Dr. Kilkis emphasized the importance of `unseen` `unspoken` additional CO2 emission responsibilities of any building due to exergy destructions according to the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics, and the impacts it has on decarbonization efforts.

Be on the lookout for the meeting slides to be posted [here](#).

Be on the lookout for the meeting slides to be posted [here](#).

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# MEMBERSHIP

## ASHRAE MEMBERSHIP FACTS

Founded in 1984

Based in Atlanta, GA

Approximately 57,000 members

## LOCAL CHAPTERS

There are 187 ASHRAE Chapters throughout the world!

Board of Governors: Elected by chapter members, they include: President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

## REGIONS

15 ASHRAE Regions throughout the world.

Each region has 7 -26 Chapters

US / Canada / Central & South America: Regions 1-12

Asia/Australia: Region 13

Europe: Region 14 – New-est!

Region-at-Large



Shannon Yancey  
2021-2022 Membership Chair



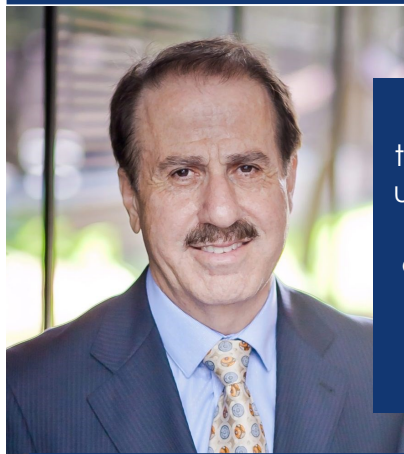
Jeff Hunter  
2021-2022 Membership Co- Chair

Please welcome our new members: Linda Lauver, Richard Gill, and Fuat BaydoGan

Join or renew through [www.ashrae.org/home](http://www.ashrae.org/home)

If you have any questions, contact [membership@ashraehouston.org](mailto:membership@ashraehouston.org)

# TREASURER



21-22 Treasurer: Ayman Ashkar

This is my first report for 2021-2022 as a treasurer of the ASHRAE Houston chapter. I took over this position from Michael Green who did excellent job as last year's treasurer. As always, we strive to be one of the best chapters in the nation financially. Although we are in good standing, we're hoping this year to get more support and contributions from engineers, vendors, and funds from various activities. We've also started working with our CPA on filing our taxes before the deadline. Finally, I want to congratulate last year's president, Greg Tinker, for an outstanding year despite the challenges with COVID-19.

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## RESEARCH PROMOTION

### Special Thanks to all Participants and Sponsors at Our 6th Annual Sporting Clay Tournament!

HD Grant Company- Awards Sponsor  
A Waldrep Company- Alcoholic Beverages Sponsor  
Graves Mechanical- Astros Ticket Raffle Donation

Click here to see the photos from this event!



### Are You an Annual RP Sponsor?

Commit now and pay later. Promotional banners are being ordered at the end of September which are prominently displayed at each event and meeting.

Reach out to Catherine Tinkler at [ctinkler@foscd.com](mailto:ctinkler@foscd.com) or 713-203-9267 for additional information.

### ANNUAL ASHRAE GOLF TOURNAMENT

-DATE, TIME AND PLACE TO BE DETERMINED-

#### Sponsorship Opportunities:

- Tailgate: \$2,500.00
- Dinner: \$2,000.00
- Beverage: \$2,000.00
- Lunch: \$1,000.00
- Snack: \$1,000.00
- Ball Sponsorship: \$1,000.00
- Goodie Bags: \$750.00
- Closest to the Pin: \$500.00
- Longest Drive: \$500.00
- Putting Contest: \$500.00
- Tiger Hole: \$500.00
- Tee Box Hole: \$250.00

Please contact Catherine Tinkler at 713-203-9267 or [ctinkler@foscd.com](mailto:ctinkler@foscd.com) with questions



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## YEA



**Sydney Foreman**  
2021-2022 YEA Chair



September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

5:30pm – 7:30pm

McIntyre's Downtown

901 Commerce Street  
Houston, TX 77002

Sponsored by LG

This event is free to attend! You can register to become an ASHRAE member online at [ASHRAEHouston](https://www.ashrae.org/ASHRAEHouston)

## WIA

### Welcome to Diversity in ASHRAE!

As our world (hopefully) moves toward a new normal, we look forward to engaging in meaningful discussions, hosting facility tours, and coordinating lively social events in whatever the appropriate manner may be.

For the upcoming year WIA aims to provide

- A network of women supporting women and men who support women in the industry
- Opportunities for professional growth and development
- Leadership skills
- Broader exposure and awareness through outreach programs

We will also work in connection with Shannon Yancey, Chair position for Membership, to help grow and bring awareness to WIA. I am thrilled to serve as your Co-Chair for the next year and look forward to endless possibilities.

Please feel free to contact me, Krista Villanueva or Lauren Ramos, with any questions or suggestions!

[Kvillanueva@gulfcoastboiler.com](mailto:kvillanueva@gulfcoastboiler.com)

| [lauren.amos@dialecticeng.com](mailto:lauren.amos@dialecticeng.com)



KRISTA VILLANUEVA



LAUREN RAMOS

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# REFRIGERATION

## AN INNOVATIVE UPGRADE ON AMMONIA REFRIGERATING SYSTEM FOR ICE CREAM MAKING FACILITY

SUBMITTED BY: MANUCHEHR MEHDIZADEH

This is a case study on trouble shooting and operation of an ammonia refrigeration system, for an overseas ice cream making facility located in the Middle East Region. The production capacity of this facility was designed for 15 Metric Ton. Our team was called upon due to serious discrepancies observed in its refrigerating system, because of which original production capacity was not met, also the quality of ice cream was far below standard (too watery and soft).

To rectify the problem we formed a trouble shooting and operation team, and decided to walk thru the plant where we may come across problems that causes refrigerating plant operate inefficiently. We understood that walking around the plant ensures that an investment becomes a profit center. By utilizing time honed expertise and advance technology solutions we aim to create an efficient system, allowing this plan to maximize profitability through fully integrated operations . In walking between the control room , the main refrigerating equipment plant room and the chilling/ freezing rooms, lots of complications were noted between the pipe connections and its controls. Also the evaporator coils of the air cooling units and its fan surfaces including fin surfaces, drain pan etc had attracted contaminants & debris thus decreasing the system's refrigeration effect while increasing compressor discharge head pressures. Often without proper maintenance the adverse effects lead to increased energy usage. These are seen to signal heat gains from the environment which decreases the efficiency of this closed loop industrial refrigerating system. The anhydrous (dry) ammonia refrigerant gas was used in this plant because of its high environmental marks with ODP & GWP being zero and in the event of leaks it breaks down to its natural

components of nitrogen & hydrogen in relatively short time.

This evaporative condenser cooled refrigerating plant operates thru natural (gravity) flooded feed. It's low rpm v-belt drive reciprocating (piston) compressor packages (3W + 1R) widely used in 2-stages ( booster and high stages) accommodating 8:1 compression ratios, operated as the heart of this system.

The team's objective was: to try keep the ROI within less than a year while achieving minimum 25% in energy savings and increase the production capacity of the ice cream thru green design aiming to achieve improved efficiency plan through real-time energy monitoring.

### NOTED PREVAILING PROBLEMS :

As part of our sustainability action plan we took the primary step in preparing a Hazop report by investigating the existing plant on day to day basis whereupon following shortcomings were observed:

1. The cooling & freezer rooms failed to achieve desired room temperatures inspite of long running hours of booster and the high stage compressors.
2. All unit compressors including the swing unit had to continuously operate full load in order to achieve the required cooling capacity.
3. The compressor suction pressure and plant evaporating temperatures did not correlate whereby the former was observed to be much lower.
4. The air cooler units for chilling & freezing rooms operated inefficiently and would often have frosted coils with lots of oil accumulation, hence prevented proper heat transfer .

5. Although the freezer room temperatures was designed to be maintained at -28C , however the best temp achieved would be -14C.

6. The level control system was bypassed and operators would throttle valves manually.

7. The full plant including defrosting of coils were manually operated.

8. With entrapped airborne contaminants near the air cooling units , accuracy of measuring devices were non-existent.

9. The air cooling unit of freezer rooms were often observed starved for liquid supply.

10. The plant operators were kept heavily occupied by operating various valves, checking different temperatures & liquid level.

11. The freezer and chiller rooms were widely located around the plant, and many a time the operator would be trapped in the control or other rooms, thus preventing him to freely communicate with his colleagues.

12. Due to leakages thru flanged joints and some welded connections, strong ammonia odor was felt in the main plant room.

Above discrepancies and lack of availability on skilled technicians at jobsite, led to high system temperatures and energy consumption and reduction in the ice cream production.

NOTE: Due to minimum allocation in the budget set by the owner, energy efficient updated devices such as the VFDs , PLC & SCADA Panels could not be furnished.

[Click here to continue reading the article.](#)

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## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES CO-CHAIRS



JIAJUN "FRANCIS" LIAO



ELMER WHITEHEAD

### Student Activities Updates

We attended the **HCC** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this summer to introduce ASHRAE and share job opportunities with HCC students (see attached photo, feel free to chop the photo as you see fit).

We continue the effort on establishing/expanding the **Rice University student branch** as students come back in the Fall semester.

We plan to sponsor student teams from **Texas A&M** and other schools to attend the ASHRAE Design Competition (<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone/competitions/2022-design-competition>). Please contact [jliao@ssr-inc.com](mailto:jliao@ssr-inc.com) if interested.

We are actively looking for mentors for the Texas A&M Mechanical Engineering student design teams! Please reach out if interested

#### **ASHRAE Houston Chapter R.O. Hunton Scholarship - \$3,000**

Available to a qualified undergraduate mechanical engineering student enrolled full-time at a post-secondary educational institution within the geographic boundaries of the Houston Chapter.

To apply this one, and for other scholarships awarded by ASHRAE, please visit the **ASHRAE Society Scholarship Program** webpage here: <https://www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone/scholarships-and-grants/scholarship-program#criteria>

Contact Lois Benedict at [lbenedict@ashrae.org](mailto:lbenedict@ashrae.org) or call 678-539-1120 (direct) with questions.

**Be mindful that the deadline for application is December 1, 2020**

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# BOG MINUTES



September 2, 2021 BOG Meeting  
3:00 pm  
Zoom meeting

Attendees: BoG and Chairs  
Board of Governors Date: September 2, 2021  
Call to order at: 3:00 PM

- I. Attendees: Josh V., Nick J., Lauren R., Jack K., Alan N., Ayman A., Shannon Y., Christy T., Julie T., Michael L., Catherine T., Greg T., Sydney F.,
- II. President – Josh Vanlandingham
- III. Approve the January Meeting minutes
  - a. Please contact your RVC no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> every month. Copy to Josh and Nick.

Position	Officer	MBOs	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
President	Josh Vanlandingham											
CTTC	Garrett Neubauer											
Research Promotion	Catherine Tinkler											
Membership	Shannon Yancey		X									
Treasurer	Ayman Ashkar											
Student Activities	Francis Liao											
YEA	Sydney Foreman											
GAC	Keith Reihl/Ken Shifflett		?									
Newsletter	Julie Thomet											
Historian	Bruce Flaniken											
Refrigeration	Manuchehr Mehdizadeh											
Electronic Communication	Jack Kolar											

- b. Goals:
  - i. Student Activities: Start the Rice UStudent Chapter.
    1. Josh reached out to Elmer – needs more input
  - ii. Membership: In crease new active members by \_\_?\_\_ from 2020-2021 membership.
  - iii. Research Promotion: \$\_\_?\_\_.
  - iv. Diversity: *discuss*
- IV. Start targeting your PAOE\*\* points for the year please.
  - a. See emailed PAOE for requirements, how-to, etc.
  - b. **2020-2021: Houston PAOE = 19,453 points.** Alan noted that PAOE points are just an indicator that is used to evaluate for Golden Gavel.
  - c. Josh mentioned the PAOE newsletter that he sent out to chairs and officers.

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Chapter Operations											
Sustainability											
Chapter Technology Transfer											
Electronic Communications											
Government Affairs											
Historical											
Membership Promotions											
Research Promotions											
Student Activities											
YEA											
<b>TOTAL (Stretch Goal 20,000 points)</b>											



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## BOG MINUTES

- d. Photos to [info@ashraehouston.org](mailto:info@ashraehouston.org) Is Jack monitoring this inbox?
  - e. Items to discuss during the general meeting?
    - i. Upcoming meetings
    - ii. Membership
  - f. CRC update
- V. President-Elect and CTC Chair – Garrett Neubauer
- a. Upcoming meetings and events
  - b. Next chapter meeting **Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** at AIA pending confirmation of venue. Will have a BOG meeting before chapter meeting in conference room.
  - c. Josh/Shannon wants to have a meeting focused on membership combined with an emphasis on diversity and how ASHRAE has made that distinction from Women in ASHRAE. Oct. 28th
    - i. Technical tour mentioned/suggested at the airport – maybe Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Student Night – March 2022
    - iii. Past President's Night – January 2022 (avoid conflict with Expo in Vegas)
  - d. Possible plan an outdoor meeting – weather permitting. Possibly at a vendor's warehouse?
  - e. Reached out to 3 distinguished lecturers as potential speakers.
    - i. Dan InHout is a DL that lives in Dallas.
  - f. Noted that Garrett should reach out to local city officials for speaking – code updates, ethics, etc.
  - g. Did you attend CTC training? **Yes**
- VI. Vice President and RP Chair – Catherine Tinkler
- a. ASHRAE Houston – summary of last year's performance
    - i. Annual Sponsors/Sponsorships. Have 5 thus far: 2 platinum, 1 gold, 1 bronze...
      - 1. TAS paid
  - b. Upcoming Events:
    - i. Clay Shoot – Sept. 10, 1pm (2pm start), American Shooting Centers
      - 1. Additional Volunteer – Registration (Julie T.)
      - 2. Additional Volunteer – Payment Taker
      - 3. Additional Volunteer – Floater (Shannon Y., Greg Tinkler)
      - 4. Need Ayman to set up a Square Reader – need a new one/adaptor. Drop off at Paige's office.
      - 5. Catherine will call teams that have not yet registered on 9/3. Have team captain's name, but not email or phone number. Try to get these from when teams register.
6. Will turn in signage info to printer on Tuesday 9/7
7. Rocky Ormand picking up raffle items
  - ii. Golf Tournaments
  - iii. Other Events?
- c. Attend RP training? **Yes**
- d. Already sent in website changes needed before 7/1, and again two weeks ago.
- VII. Treasurer – Ayman Ashkar
- a. Account balances – sent Josh an update for August checking and savings statements
  - b. What do we do with the savings account?
    - i. Use account to save for hosting CRC to keep this money out of the general checking acct.
    - ii. Josh instructed Ayman to schedule a meeting with Bruce and set up CRC budget
  - c. Greg Tinkler mentioned that he will assist with the audit for last year's budget with Mike Green and Keith Reihl during the month of September. Deadline to turn in for PAOE points is July 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. Alan is sending Ayman the CRC budget during this meeting
  - e. Taxes – spoke with Gilbert Gonzales. Try to submit by Nov. 15th
  - f. Budget for 2021-2022 – goal to have a budget ready to approve in October
  - g. Reviewing current checking statement
  - h. Attend CTC training? **Yes**
- VIII. Secretary – Nick Janssen
- a. Star Chapter access to print meeting nametags (various types of attendees) – get with Jack Kolar
  - b. Post-meeting minutes on Houston Basecamp and to Julie for Newsletter
  - c. Make name badges for meetings
- IX. Membership – Shannon Yancey, ~~Jeff Hunter~~
- a. Set up meeting with Jack to handle social media transfer for membership posts
  - b. Ideas for new meeting types: outdoor, etc.
  - c. Current Houston chapter membership status
  - d. Plans for membership committee for this year
  - e. Coordinate with Garrett on which meeting to have membership presentation
  - f. New member sponsorship - Shannon updated form for new member sponsorships

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- X. Student Activities, K-12 – Francis Liao, Elmer Whithead
  - a. New Student Chapters – Rice
    - i. Discussion about having a meeting at Valhalla – non profit pub at Rice under the science building. (mentioned by Alan Neely)
  - b. TAMU student design competition – TAMU asked us to sponsor this year
    - i. Discussion and Vote on TAMU sponsorship
  - c. Discuss when we will need/want to attend student chapter meetings
- XI. Historian – Bruce Flaniken
  - a. Update
- XII. YEA - Sydney Foreman
  - a. September happy hour to be sponsored by LG at McInyres Downtown. Date to be rescheduled from September 23<sup>rd</sup> due to conflict with chapter meeting.
- XIII. Diversity in ASHRAE – Krista Villanueva / Lauen Ramos
  - a. Change from WiA to Diversity
  - b. Plans for upcoming year – wants a schedule of other events so they can plan around.
  - c. Open for an additional committee member or two for additional viewpoints.
- XIV. PAOE – Terry Connor
  - a. Update PAOE status
- XV. Refrigeration – Manuchehr Mehdizadeh
  - a. Plans for upcoming year
- XVI. Sustainability / Energy Modeling – Steve Stelzer
  - a. Meeting and discussion on new updates to ASHRAE position documents
  - b. Laura Cunningham – City of Houston sustainability director resigned as of 9/3/2021
- XVII. Newsletter – Julie Thomet
  - a. Update- Newsletters – wants updates to publish in newsletter before Clay Shoot
  - b. Photos in the HAR
- XVIII. Webmaster and Social Media and Electronic Communications Chair – Jack Kolar
  - a. Jack mentioned in order to get PAOE points, need to post chapter schedule by October 1<sup>st</sup>
  - b. Jack is rolling OFF and we need a REPLACEMENT OR TWO
  - c. Home page update
  - d. Officers update
- XIX. Honors and Awards – Alan, Bruce
  - a. Update, Group had a meeting at the end of January
  - b. Award submissions for projects...what do we need to know?
- XX. Directory Chair – Greg Tinkler
  - a. Status-to be published to members by?
  - b. What do you need?
- XXI. Grass Roots Government Advocacy – Keith Reihl, Kenneth Shifflett
  - a. Make presentation at March meeting?
- XXII. Commissioning Chair – David MacLean
- XXIII. Meeting called to closed at 4:45 PM

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# ROSTER

Position	Full Name	Phone	Email
Chapter President	Mr Josh Vanlandingham, PE	(713) 515-3726	<a href="mailto:jjvanham@gmail.com">jjvanham@gmail.com</a>
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