

# SAC VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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## President's Message

Spencer Empey - Chapter President

Hello Sacramento Valley!

At the November meeting, all contractor firms with a company representative in attendance were entered into a drawing for a chance to win a complimentary hole sponsorship at either the ASHRAE Trap Shoot or the Golf Tournament. Congratulations to [Southland](#), the lucky winner for the month.



Please reach out with any questions or areas where we can collaborate.

I am open to ideas and feedback regarding how you want your local chapter to look and be structured. Please reach out with any items you want to discuss!

Spencer Empey

[sempey@norman-wright.com](mailto:sempey@norman-wright.com)

916-217-9706



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# Upcoming Meetings / Events

## Meeting Updates:

- **Marble Game:** Make sure to bring cash to participate!! The pot is at \$850.

### **Next Event: Beer Tasting & Tech Tour**

**Date:** 01/15/26

**Time:** 6pm

**Location:** Red Bus Brewing Company

802 Reading St, Unit A, Folsom, CA 95630

For more information and sign up link, check out page 10 of this Newsletter.

## Next Meeting:

**Date:** 02/18/26 | **Time:** Happy Hour: 5-6pm & Presentation: 6-7:30pm

**Location:** Rock and Brews (Cal Expo)

1600 Exposition Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95815

**Presentation Topic:** AI in Action: Daily Tools Transforming Engineering and Construction

**Presenter:** Tracy Jumper

**Sign up here:** [LINK](#)

**Please be sure to register by February 16th so we can get an accurate head count. Your RSVP helps us plan a great event for everyone!**

## Upcoming Events:

DATE	EVENT	PRESENTATION	TIME	LOCATION
01/15/26	Beer Tasting & Tech Tour	--	Tour	Red Bus Brewing
02/18/26	General Meeting	AI in Engineering & Construction	Dinner	Rock & Brew
February	Gov. Advocacy	--	TBD	State Capitol Bldg.
03/19/26	ASHRAE President Visit	Indoor Environment	Lunch	Cattleman's
03/20/26	Trap Shoot	--	8 AM	Camanche Hills
04/09/26	General Meeting	100% OSA VRF	Dinner	TBD
05/06/26	General Meeting	TBD	Lunch	TBD
05/29/26	Annual Golf Tournament	--	8 AM	Rancho Murieta
06/03/26	General Meeting	TBD	Dinner	TBD

## Typical Dinner Pricing

\$ 60 per member

\$ 70 per non-member

\$ 0 for ASHRAE

Student Members

## Typical Lunch Pricing

\$ 50 per member

\$ 60 per non-member

\$ 0 for ASHRAE

Student Members



**Got a Speaker?**  
**Interested in presenting?**  
**Reach out to us!**

**Greg Skinner**  
[gtskinner@norman-wright.com](mailto:gtskinner@norman-wright.com)

# Editorial

Our general meeting this month, hosted at SMUD headquarters and focused on the benefits of building electrification, was a great success. We extend our sincere thanks to Stet Sanborn for sharing his expertise with our members. If you're interested in reviewing Stet's presentation, be sure to visit the In the Spotlight section of this newsletter. We also appreciate SMUD for their continued partnership and support.

We'd like to take a moment to recognize and give a warm welcome to our newest members:

- Kathleen Dufort
- Ben Aguilar
- Amy Legrande
- Robert Jeffrey
- Adam Banks
- Prof. Chris Cappa

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

Happy Holidays!

Felipe Victoria  
President Elect





# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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## BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

**Did you know?**

If you missed out Stet's presentation OR if you want to review his slides, you can find it here: [LINK](#)

Also, you should take advantage of all the great information ASHRAE's Center of Excellence for Building Decarbonization offers for free at their website: [LINK](#)



**Center of Excellence for  
Building Decarbonization**

## ASHRAE HISTORY

**Did you know?**

- PAOE (Presidential Award Of Excellence) was developed in 1970, with the goal for chapters "To Strive for Excellence".
- Click on this [LINK](#) for the full article.





# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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Fellow Sacramento Valley ASHRAE members. My name is Scott Wayland, and I am grateful to serve our chapter as the GAC Chair. I hope to inform you and engage you. I totally encourage you to get involved with ASHRAE if you have not ever served or participated in the past. GAC is one of our Grassroots committees which was formulated back in 2012, spun from CTTC and TEGA.

GAC is here to help ASHRAE be the leader we are in the built environment and as a resource for policy makers when legislation pertains to HVAC. So we aren't lobbyists but we do help advocate. So at the Chapter and Region grassroots levels, our committee helps promote ASHRAE and what our members care about. I encourage you to join our committee.

As you may know, in 3 of the last 6 years, we have conducted a Government Outreach Day at the State Capitol. Stay tuned for more on this year's event, which other members from the California Chapters in Region X will attend. I encourage you to join us, most likely on a day in March-April (TBD).

If you are not already a subscriber, please check out the Government Affairs Update newsletter. You can find a link to signing up at the GAC website here:

<https://www.ashrae.org/about/government-affairs>

On that page, you will find info on Member Resources, links to Society Position Papers, and more

Scott Wayland, GAC chair  
[C081GAC@ashrae.net](mailto:C081GAC@ashrae.net)



# Looking for a career in HVAC&R?

If you are a local employer and would like to add job postings to our newsletter's please reach out to our board members to assist.

Felipe Victoria, President Elect

## LOCAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Feel free to reach out to us today if you would like to include job opportunities in our newsletter.



## ASHRAE JOB BOARD

If you are seeking a job in the engineering field or searching for the most qualified engineers, the ASHRAE job board offers the most qualified opportunities and candidates. Engineers can set up a personal account for job searches, manage resumes and create alerts for new job postings. Employers can set up a corporate account to post new jobs, review resumes and manage recruiting.

Find a career or internship here: <https://jobs.ashrae.org/>

# Officers

## **PRESIDENT**

SPENCER EMPEY  
SEMPEY@NORMAN-WRIGHT.COM

## **PRESIDENT ELECT**

FELIPE VICTORIA  
FELIPEV@FRANKBOOTH.COM

## **SECRETARY**

MORGAN GARRETT  
MORGAN.GARRETT@JCI.COM

## **TREASURER**

KYLE NAKAGAKI  
KNAKAGAKI@MCCARTHY.COM

IF YOU WISH TO JOIN,  
REACH OUT TO AN OFFICER

# Committees

## **TECHNOLOGIES TRANSFER**

GREG SKINNER

## **MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION**

VICTORIA GARCIA MASSIMO

## **RESEARCH PROMOTION**

ED NECOECHEA

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

SAMANTHA ARELLANO

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

SERGIO RODRIGUEZ  
CO-CHAIRS:  
DAPHNY PAYE  
MARCO MARQUEZ

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

ASHKAN AZARKEYVAN

## **YOUNG ENGINEERS IN ASHRAE (YEA)**

ED NECOECHEA

## **HISTORIAN**

JOSE CHAVEZ

## **DIVERSITY IN ASHRAE**

DAPHNY PAYE

## **GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES**

SCOTT WAYLAND

## **REFRIGERATION**

MARCO MARQUEZ

## **BOARD OF ADVISORS**

JACOB BRAUSCH  
NICK FIORITO

# Save The Date



# Sponsor-A-Student

See below for information on how you can sponsor a local student to help build up the next generation of the HVAC community!







## SPONSOR AN ASHRAE STUDENT MEMBER

HELP PREPARE OUR NEXT  
GENERATION OF  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS  
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP COST IS \$30 ANNUALLY.  
STUDENT DINNER COST IS \$20 PER DINNER.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO EMAIL KYLE NAKAGAKI AND DONATE TODAY!

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO STUDENT ACTIVITIES CO-CHAIRS:  
SERGIO [SRODRIGUEZ@KITCHELL.COM](mailto:SRODRIGUEZ@KITCHELL.COM) &  
SAMANTHA [SARELLANO@WESTON-ME.COM](mailto:SARELLANO@WESTON-ME.COM)



# Honors and Awards:

Dear Sacramento Valley Chapter Members,

We are proud to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our members! Your dedication and contributions to the industry deserve to be acknowledged, and we would be delighted to promote your successes within our chapter and beyond.

ASHRAE offers a wide range of honors and awards that highlight excellence in engineering, leadership, research, and service.

In this section, we will:

- Share information about current award opportunities
- Highlight recent award recipients
- Invite nominations for deserving individuals

If you or someone you know is making a significant impact in our field, let us know—we're always looking for potential nominees. Together, let's shine a spotlight on the talent and dedication within our community!

## Developing Leader Award

This award recognizes new members who have shown diverse involvement and commitment to ASHRAE within five year of becoming an Associate Member.

- Recognition is in the form of a plaque and lapel pin
- No limit on the number of recipients per year
- Recommended by the YEA Committee
- Please visit the [YEA website](#) for details and nomination instructions

Please send all completed nominations and photos to the YEA Committee Staff liaison at [YoungEngineers@ashrae.org](mailto:YoungEngineers@ashrae.org).

Do you know someone who is eligible?

Please contact Ashkan Azarkeyvan

[aaazarkeyvan@capital-engineering.com](mailto:aaazarkeyvan@capital-engineering.com)



# Beer Tasting & Tech Tour



**BEER** Tasting & **TECH** Tour



**Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 6PM**

**Red Bus Brewing Company**  
**802 Reading St UNIT A, Folsom, CA 95630**

Whether you're a seasoned beer connoisseur or just starting to explore the happy goodness, this is the perfect opportunity to sip, savor, and discover a new brew while learning about the fermentation, refrigeration, canning, and beer brewing processes.

**\$25 includes pizza and first round**  
**First 10 to sign up are FREE**

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY ASHRAE DEI, UPCOMING EVENTS, OR IF YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THIS COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT:

DAPHNY PAYE: [DAPHNY@VERTISYS.NET](mailto:DAPHNY@VERTISYS.NET)

VICTORIA GARCIA MASSIMO: [VGARCIA@AIRZONECONTROL.COM](mailto:VGARCIA@AIRZONECONTROL.COM)



# Why Join?

**ASHRAE members bring the world of ours together through the exchange of technical information, writing of standards and through committee work and networking.**

**When you join ASHRAE, you are making an investment in yourself. When you become active in the Society by giving your time and sharing your knowledge, you get even more out of that investment.**

## THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- ASHRAE Handbook – this reference manual is the most widely cited reference for HVAC&R technology in the world. Each year one of the four volume Handbooks is updated and delivered to members to add to their library and knowledge base
- ASHRAE Journal – a monthly magazine that brings current trends and information to your desk in your choice of print or digital format
- ASHRAE E-newsletter – delivered to your desk in print and digital form, these publication help you keep on top of what is going on in the Society and the industry, all over the world
- Discounts – on ASHRAE publications – ASHRAE members earn 15% off publications through the ASHRAE website at [www.ashrae.org/bookstore](http://www.ashrae.org/bookstore). More than 300 titles are available including the ASHRAE standards
- Chapter Meetings – ASHRAE chapters convene for an informational program featuring speakers and topics key to professionals in the industry. Also, an excellent opportunity to network with your peers
- Become an Industry Leader - Develop leadership skills, work with and lead ASHRAE committee members, and network with industry professionals at ASHRAE chapter, region, and society meetings
- Advance your Career - Look for employees & employment at [ashraejobs.com](http://ashraejobs.com) and network with other HVAC&R professionals at ASHRAE meetings, participate in job postings, maintain your professional education and designation with 40+ courses, earning CEUs/PDHs/AIA LUs, and explore technical topics at ASHRAE chapter, region and society meetings
- Protect Yourself Through Insurance - If you're in the market for insurance, keep in mind that ASHRAE members have access to a variety of plans through March U.S. Consumer

## ASHRAE MISSION

To advance the arts and sciences of heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigerating to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world.