President’s Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season filled with quality family and friend time. The last couple weeks have given me a moment to refresh and reflect. I went back to my folks’ farm in Harlan, IA, for a couple days to celebrate Christmas with my immediate family. As I get older, I value these family get-togethers and memories more every year.

Speaking of family, our YEA committee has planned a kid-friendly event at the Kids Activity Center at Mahoney State Park for Thursday, February 16th from 5-7 pm. Bring your significant other and/or kids to enjoy ice skating and other indoor activities. The cost is incredibly reasonable: $5 entry to the park, $2/person for Jungle Gym access, and $3/person for ice skate rental. It should be a great time, and we’d love to see you there!

January is a busy month for ASHRAE, as the 2017 ASHRAE Winter Meeting is coming up later this month in Las Vegas, NV. The conference will be held January 28 – February 1 at Caesar’s Palace Hotel. This event is predicted to be the largest AHR Expo outside of Chicago and possibly the largest ASHRAE meeting ever! Note that any attending Nebraska Chapter members are encouraged to attend the Region IX regional dinner on January 29th at 7:30 pm at Carmine’s in the Forum Shops (attached to Caesar’s Palace). Everyone in the region is invited! The cost is $25 per person and FREE for students. To RSVP, please email Blake Ellis at blakeashrae@gmail.com. Additionally, see the following link for Winter Meeting registration information: https://www.ashrae.org/membership-conferences.

I’m looking forward to a fun and productive year for our chapter! Know that the Board has multiple social events, fundraisers, and philanthropic activities in the pipeline for this spring. Until then, we’ll see you January 10th at Anthony’s Steakhouse for our monthly meeting.

Sincerely,
Jessica Errett
ASHRAE President 2016-2017
jerrett@energystudioinc.com

REMINDERS

- Omaha Meeting - Tuesday, January 10
- Lincoln Meeting - Wednesday, January 11
- 2017 Winter Meeting - January 28 through February 1
- YEA Family Skating - Thursday, February 16

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January Meetings

OMAHA — Fire/Smoke/Radiation Damper Application and Installation with Jim Ellis

Tuesday, January 10th, 2017
Anthony’s Steakhouse — Buffet ($18)

LINCOLN — SAC Federal Credit Union Chilled Beam System Design with Mike Brady

Wednesday, January 11th, 2017
Valentino’s — Buffet ($15)

For more information or to register for either meeting visit our website www.neashrae.org

YEA Family Event

WHEN: Thursday, February 16th
5:00 – 7:00 PM

WHERE: Mahoney State Park, Kids Activity Center

EVENT: Bring your kiddos and spouses to enjoy some ice skating or let them burn some energy in Jungle Gym.

COST: (pay at the park)
$5 day pass for entry to Park
(if you don’t already have a pass)
$2/person for Jungle Gym
$3/person for skate rental

Concessions are available at the activity center to be purchased separately.
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 pm Omaha Meeting</td>
<td>11:30 am Lincoln Meeting</td>
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Congress returned to Washington after the election for a brief lame-duck session. Their main task is the short-term continuing resolution to finance the federal government that will likely send the budget debate to March. It is unclear how Congress will commit funds to the address the drinking water crisis in Flint, Michigan. Additionally, hope of passing a comprehensive energy bill sponsored by Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) appears dim. According to a joint statement issued by the two Senators, they have responded to the House version of the bill "with a new offer that restores a host of provisions that the House was prepared to drop — including those related to [liquefied natural gas] exports, sportsmen's, the Land & Water Conservation Fund, hydropower, natural gas pipelines, manufacturing, innovation, carbon benefits of biomass, and critical minerals. We also remain hopeful that an agreement can be reached on provisions to address California's drought crisis, to remedy wildfire funding challenges, and to improve forest management." Speaker Ryan's office stated late Wednesday afternoon that the bill will not move forward in this session since the two Chambers were unable to resolve the differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.

US DOE Withdraws Rule on Commercial Packaged Boilers

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is withdrawing its final rule to amend its test procedure for commercial packaged boilers which published in the Federal Register on Thursday, November 10, 2016. The final rule published on November 10, 2016 contained errors. Therefore, DOE is withdrawing the final rule in its entirety and will republish the final rule amending its test procedure for commercial packaged boilers. Among other amendments, the final rule incorporates by reference certain sections of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) Standard 1500, "2015 Standard for Performance Rating of Commercial Space Heating Boilers," provides an optional field test for commercial packaged boilers with rated input greater than 5,000,000 Btu/h, and modifies the inlet water temperatures during tests of hot water commercial packaged boilers. Because the November 10, 2016, rule contained errors, DOE is withdrawing the final rule in its entirety and will republish the final rule amending its test procedure for commercial packaged boilers. Inquiries should be sent to Mr. James Raba, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Office, EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-8654. Email: ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov.

MORE ARTICLES

To find a full list of updates visit www.ashrae.org/government-affairs/government-affairs-updates or subscribe to receive information on activities within Congress and Federal agencies from the ASHRAE Washington office.
## Future meetings

*Topics subject to change*

### Omaha

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 14th</td>
<td>Contracting Law with David Houghton</td>
<td>11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 14th</td>
<td>Technical Session with Bill Bahnfleth</td>
<td>11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 11th</td>
<td>UNO Student Chapter &amp; Tim Wentz</td>
<td>11:45am</td>
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<td>May 13th</td>
<td>Burlington Building Tour</td>
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### Lincoln

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<tr>
<td>Feb. 15th</td>
<td>ASHRAE Std. 170 with Eric Granzow</td>
<td>12:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 15th</td>
<td>BIM Coordination with Todd Shakelford</td>
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<td>Apr. 12th</td>
<td>Distinguished Lecturer</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>LES K St DEC Plant Tour</td>
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## Chapter Chairpersons

### Membership Promotion
- Philip Prest

### Research Promotion
- David Kros
- Nick Mandel

### Student Activities
- Meagan Kurmel
- Jim Butler

### Webmaster
- Eric Granzow

### Omaha Technology Transfer
- Aaron Rasell

### Chapter Officers

#### Presidents
- Jessica Errett

#### President Elect
- Tom Lewis

#### Secretary
- Shaun Nienhueser

#### Treasurer
- Chris Hawk

#### 1st Board Member
- Chris Beaty

#### 2nd Board Member
- Jake Kopocis

#### Board Ex-Officio
- Tyler Glesne

Visit us on the web at [www.neashrae.org](http://www.neashrae.org)