

History of Greenville, SC Chapter of ASHRAE

GREENVILLE CHAPTER (097) REGION IV - ASHRAE

1963 to 1993 by Benny Bootle
1993 to 2013 by Devon Cortright

Below is the text of the History of the Greenville Chapter as written by Benny Bootle in 1993. Benny was updating a document he wrote in 1982. I have added (parenthetical comments) to update some of Benny's text, updated the list of presidents, and made other minor changes. Information on the chapter from 1993 to 2013 has been added at the end by Devon Cortright.

1963 – 1993

by Benny Bootle - 1983 & 1993 Historian

The Greenville Chapter of Region IV ASHRAE was chartered and began its operation during the 1963/64 fiscal year of ASHRAE.

This chapter is a spin-off from the South Carolina Chapter, which was originally chartered during the fiscal year of 1954/55.

Just for the record, the Charleston Chapter is a further spin-off of the South Carolina Chapter and received its charter during fiscal year 1971/72.

The members of the Greenville Chapter, who were originally members of the South Carolina Chapter met as a part of the South Carolina Chapter from 1954/55 through 1962/63.

During the initial stages of the South Carolina Chapter, the meetings would be held as follows: Columbia - Greenville - Columbia - Spartanburg - Columbia - Greenville - Columbia - Charleston. This gave four meetings per year in Columbia, two in Greenville, one in Spartanburg and one in Charleston. The meetings were on the third Monday night in September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May. It may be a coincidence, but both the South Carolina Chapter, who meets in Columbia and the Greenville Chapter, who meets in Greenville, still meet on the third Monday. (*Obviously this is no longer true. dc*)

Even though four of the eight meetings were held in Columbia, we were finding that by the early 60's there would be more people in attendance at a Columbia meeting from Greenville than there were from Columbia. A group of the Greenville members felt it would behoove both the Greenville and Columbia members for Greenville to file a petition to become a separate entity. The original petition consisted of 26+ names of the Greenville area and the chapter was originally chartered to start serving as the Greenville Chapter during fiscal year 1963/64.

It is interesting to note that the following Greenville Chapter members served as President of the South Carolina Chapter prior to the Greenville Chapter being formed and they are as follows:

1955/56	R.K. Rouse (<i>Deceased</i>)
1957/58	B.A. Leppard (<i>Deceased</i>)
1958/59	H.J. Haar (<i>Deceased</i>)
1960/61	T.O. Curlee, Jr. (<i>Deceased</i>)
1962/63	H.R. King

It is interesting to note that during the early years and up until the early 60's, the interstate system had not been completed. I can recall several trips in which four or five of the Greenville/ Spartanburg members would depart about noon on the third Monday of the month (once per year) to attend a Charleston Chapter meeting i.e. the Fort Sumter Hotel on the Battery or Francis Marion Hotel on King Street (both of which do not exist anymore).

The Columbia meetings were held in downtown Columbia hotels, which also do not exist anymore.

The Spartanburg annual meeting was held at the Cleveland Hotel on Morgan Square, which does not exist anymore.

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The two annual meetings in Greenville were held at the Ottara Hotel (the present site of the Hyatt Regency) and the Greenville Hotel and sometimes the Poinsett Hotel. None of the above exists in the form of a hotel even though two of the buildings are still standing. *(The renovated Poinsett Hotel is now back in business. dc)*

The Greenville Chapter, during its 1992/93 year, will be completing its 30th year as an ASHRAE chapter. The following is a list of the past and present chapter presidents.

1963/64	George Morgan
1964/65	Jas. E. Waldrep
1965/66	Jasper C. Boles
1966/67	Benny T. Bootle
1967/68	Jim McCarter
1968/69	Bob Allen (Pres.) Truman Ellison (Acting Pres.)
1969/70	Jack Slattery
1970/71	Tom MacFee
1971/72	C. Evans Putman
1972/73	Frank Durham
1973/74	Fred Mappus
1974/75	Balus Chastain
1975/76	Dave Beeson
1976/77	Al Wills
1977/78	Forney Lowe (Res.) Al Wills (Acting Pres.)

1978/79	Ed Evans
1979/80	Ron Miller
1980/81	Bill Chisholm
1981/82	Chris Bueker
1982/83	David Scadlock
1983/84	Ray Chandler
1984/85	Chip Allison
1985/86	Porter Huskey
1986/87	Jon McKnight
1987/88	Forney Lowe
1988/89	Fred Stansell
1989/90	T, Minh Tran
1990/91	Ted Garrett
1991/92	Carrol Suttles
1992/93	Steve Ernest

The two listed as acting president filled slots for two former chapter presidents, who were transferred during their year.

The Greenville Chapter boundaries initially included some counties in the Northeast area of the state that were transferred to the S. Piedmont Chapter and a group of counties in Western North Carolina were, in turn, transferred to the Greenville Chapter.

The Greenville Chapter served as the host Chapter for the Region IV CRC during the years 1967/68, 1982/83 and 1990/91.

It should be noted that Region IV encompassed North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico with up to sixteen (16) chapters prior to Regional Reorganization. The current Region IV, as of this writing, consists of three chapters in North Carolina, three in South Carolina and one in the State of Georgia (a total of seven). *(Still accurate in 2013. dc)*

The Greenville Chapter, as previously noted, meets on the third Monday, eight times a year, at The Holiday Inn on U.S. #25. They have met at this location for several years. They have met during the thirty year period at other locations such as the Colonial Court, Wade Hampton Blvd., Charcoal Steak House, U.S. #25 and Ye Olde Fire- place, 291 Bypass (South Pleasantburg Drive) and the Thunderbird Inn on 291 Bypass. The current meal price for the year is \$12.00 for a buffet. *(See follow up article for subsequent meeting locations. dc)* The writer *(Benny Bootle)* can remember meeting at Ye Olde Fireplace when steak was served family style (all you could eat) for \$3.50, i.e. this was when membership dues were \$2.00 annually and Society dues were in the \$20.00 range. You could also fly round trip to a Winter ASHRAE Exposition in Chicago or Philadelphia in the early days for less than \$100.00 complete with at least nine (9) stops in a DC3.

During the thirty year period, we find that from the original 26 who signed the petition, we are now assigned some 238+ area members. *(The Greenville Chapter currently has 206 area assigned members. dc)*

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Since the inception of the Presidential Award of Excellence, the Greenville Chapter has received the PAOE fifteen times, plus a Star Award three times and a Special Citation Award two times.

During this period (1963 to 1993), Region IV, of which Greenville is a part, has provided the Society with three Presidents, namely David Rickelton, Jack Chaddock and Barney Burroughs. The Greenville Chapter has provided the Region with three Regional Vice-Chairmen and one Regional Chairman plus alternate and member for the Society Nominating Committee plus Society Committee Members under Research Promotion, Meetings and Arrangements, Admissions and Advancements Refrigeration and Administrative Council Committee. All historical records, including the original charter, are maintained at 3 N. Kings Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29605. *(Unfortunately a significant number of historical documents have been misplaced. Those currently available are at H2L, 116 S. Pleasantburg Drive, Greenville. dc)*

1993 - 2013

by Devon Cortright

Extending Benny Bootle's 1993 chapter history with a list of chapter presidents from 1993 to present.

1993/94	Kevin Melton
1994/95	Mike Metz
1995/96	Pete Arsenault
1996/97	Paul Jensen
1997/98	Hank McCullough
1998/99	Terry Bowen
1999/2000	Mark Schnetzka
2000/01	Steve Abernathy
2001/02	Patrick Leake
2002/03	Mike Eckert
2003/04	Ryan McCleary

2004/05	Karl Counts
2005/06	James Bryan
2006/07	Eric Scott
2007/08	Karl Counts
2008/09	Will Thomason
2009/10	Davin Sandhu
2010/11	Devon Cortright
2011/12	Grant Wiegmann
2012/13	William "Ryan" Tonnsen
20013/14	Daniel Lowe

Benny's chapter history stopped in 1993 with meetings at the Holiday Inn at I85 and US25. From there meetings moved to the Phoenix Inn on Highway 291 where I attended my first one. Prior to the mid 90's the meetings were typically held in the evening with a seminar starting at 5:30, an "attitude adjustment session", dinner, followed by a program. Fees for an evening meeting were typically about \$12. In the mid 1990's occasional lunch meetings were scheduled and over time all meetings were moved to a lunch format, with exceptions for special occasions. During this transition period meetings were held at two Piedmont Natural Gas Offices, Duke Power Offices, Amerisuites, and Trane Upstate. Roper Mountain Science Center has been the primary location for the lunch meetings since 2002. As of this writing fees for the lunch meeting are \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Having served on the Greenville board for many years I can say that the merits of an evening versus lunch meeting have been discussed many times, and will probably be discussed many more.

Up until 1996 the end of the ASHRAE year was frequently capped with a BBQ at Benny Bootle's residence. Benny passed away in December 1996.

In reviewing historical documents to write this history I noted that from 1992 through 1998 at least one meeting a year was held in the Asheville area, usually at the Holiday Inn, Arden. The Western North Carolina Section received its charter in April 1995. As of this writing I cannot state the Section is considered active or not. In October of this year a meeting was held in Asheville at the Lenoir Rhyne Center for Graduate Studies. Attendance was very good.

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A newsletter delivered via the US Postal Service was dropped in 2003 and the chapter electronic e-mail newsletter was born. In 2002-2003 printing and mailing the newsletter cost the chapter \$2640, a significant portion of the budget.

The Greenville Chapter website was established in 2003. Crashed (or more correctly froze) in 2011 giving the appearance of Grant Wiegmann remaining as on-going president. Rebirth of the website is scheduled for November of 2013.

In 2006 the chapter was recognized by the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCBELS) as an authorized provider of continuing education credits for professional engineers registered in North Carolina. Seminars and programs are eligible for Professional Development Hours in North Carolina.

The Chapter Regional Conference (CRC) is held in August and hosted by the seven chapters in Region IV on a rotating basis. Greenville hosted CRC in 1998, 2005, and 2012. The 1998 CRC was held at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, The 2005 and 2012 CRC's were held at the Embassy Suites on Verdae Boulevard in Greenville.

Benny's history article mentioned flying to the national meeting on a DC-3 for \$100 with numerous stops. The New York meeting in January has a registration fee of \$540 to \$695, early reservation hotel at \$240 a night, and add airfare at \$280 and up. Of course air travel now will only require one stop or less. Chapter membership is \$30 and national dues are \$196.

Establishing a Clemson Student Chapter has been an on-going goal of the Greenville chapter for many years. The goal became a reality due to the efforts of Daniel Lowe, Student Activities, and Dr. Richard Miller, faculty advisor. The student chapter's first official meeting was in November 2011 with Ron Jarnigan, ASHRAE President as their first speaker.

This was not Greenville's first student chapter. There was a student chapter at Greenville Technical College chartered in March 1995 with Jerry Moore, Student Activities Chairman and Tom Shiflet, Greenville Tech, as the organizers. Announcements of a new student chapter are made in bold type, the disappearance of same happens quietly. Based on the writer's not so impressive memory the Greenville Tech Student Chapter stopped functioning sometime before 2003.

Ron Jarnigan was not the first ASHRAE president to visit us. In March of 2002 William Coad, ASHRAE President, visited the Greenville chapter, and conducted a seminar on Ethics & Economics of Energy Conservation. Over the years the Board of Directors, lead by the Programs Chairman, work to present interesting and educational programs. They haven't all been home runs, but most have been very good. Below is a list of some of the highlights.

4/1996	Jim Oswald - How to Surf the Internet (It was a new thing then.)
4/1998	Panel Discussion on Specifications
3/1999	Dave Miller - Y2K - Joint Meeting with NSPE (Remember the scare associated with the millennium and computers?)
9/2004	Marilyn Flenner - Litigation & Liability for Engineers. (Numerous speakers over the years addressed litigation and liability issues.)
9/2005	Professor Stanley Mumma - Dedicated Outdoor Air Systems
3/2006	Dan In-Hout - Diffuser Selection (He returned in 2007 to discuss VAV systems.)
2/2009	Professor Essam Eldin Khalil, Cairo University - Ventilation of Archaeological Tombs
5/2009	Thomas Creek Brewery Tour (For some reason not everyone stayed with the tour.)
Various Dates	Chris Edmonson - Numerous topics and always a favorite.

There have also been many good speakers from our own ASHRAE Community. Please let the board know of suggested topics and speakers.

There are currently 206 members assigned to the Greenville Chapter. We are always looking for members willing to help with operations. One of the reasons I have stayed involved is the people that I meet and connections to others in this field, not just in Greenville, but all over the Carolinas and Georgia.