



Newsletter

November 2025



Southwest
Florida
Chapter

MEETING DETAILS

Date:

Thursday, November 20th 2025

Location:

Double Tree by Hilton, Fort Myers
at the Bell Tower Shops

Time:

5:30-6:30 pm Networking
6:30-8:00 pm Dinner & Main
Program

Cost:

\$35.00 Per Attendee

RESERVATIONS VIA RSVP LINK
BELOW ARE REQUIRED

*No Cost for College Students with a
Valid I.D.

Card Payments will be Accepted at
the Door

Pre-Pay via www.paypal.com to
swfl.ashrae@gmail.com

RSVP by November 19th, 2025 via
the following link:

<https://forms.gle/F5hUNy9sRNZkJF7K7>

Presenter:

Megan DaCosta

Application Engineer at Price
Industries

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings SWFL ASHRAE!

November is here, and with it comes a fresh set of opportunities to connect, learn, and enjoy each other's company. As the days get a little shorter and the weather (finally!) cools off, we have two fantastic events on deck this month:

YEA Networking Night:

We're heading back to Cigar Cutters on November 6th for our monthly YEA event. If you had a blast with us last time, you'll want to keep this on your calendar. Whether you're a Young Engineer in ASHRAE, new to the area, or just interested in expanding your local network, come out for a relaxed evening. This is a chance to mingle, chat with your Board of Governors, and strengthen those connections—bring a friend or two along!

Monthly Technical Presentation:

Mark your calendar for November 20th, 5:30pm at the Double Tree! Dinner and drinks are on us as we welcome Megan DaCosta, who will present on the all-important subjects of thermal comfort and Indoor Air Quality. If you want to understand how these topics impact building occupants—and what's new in best practices—don't miss Megan's presentation. It's a great chance to expand your technical knowledge, ask questions, and meet members who share your interests.

Of course, I want to give a huge thank you to all our annual sponsors; your investment in our chapter's mission is vital and deeply appreciated. And if you haven't joined our sponsor family yet, please reach out to Gary Devore, our RP Chair, to learn more about supporting ASHRAE in the coming year. Sponsorship helps us deliver engaging events, offer scholarships, and highlight your organization among industry peers.

As always, I encourage you to take part in these events, invite colleagues, and share your ideas with our chapter. Let's keep the momentum going—November promises fantastic learning, networking, and good times together!

Thanks for all you do, and for being such an important part of SWFL ASHRAE.
See you soon!"



Megan DaCosta
Application Engineer, Price Industries

BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manitoba

Megan DaCosta is an Application Engineer with Price Industries. With a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Megan’s role focuses on providing engineers, contractors, and sales rep with technical support for the Grilles, Registers, and Diffusers (GRD) product line. She also aides in the management of customer facing software tools and development of Revit content.

Main Program for upcoming meeting:

THERMAL COMFORT

The goal of a commercial HVAC system is to create a thermally comfortable environment, with clean, safe, odor-free air for a building’s occupants. This presentation explores the fundamental principles of thermal comfort and indoor air quality as it relates to industry standards, design goals, and methods of evaluating spaces within the built environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Understand the basic tools and methods used to quantify ventilation rates in an HVAC system
- 2. Explore the existing ASHRAE Standards that determine minimum required clean air flow rates
- 3. Survey latest trends in ventilation and IAQ design

UPCOMING SCHEDULED CTTC MEETINGS

	November	December	January	February	March
Date	11/20/25	N/A	1/7/26	2/11/26	3/11/26
Location	Double Tree @ Crowne Plaza		Double Tree @ Crowne Plaza	Double Tree @ Crowne Plaza	Double Tree @ Crowne Plaza
Time	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Dinner

Monthly YEA Cigar Meetup

YEA is hosting a networking event for industry professionals to be able to share ideas and enjoy a nice cigar.

Cigar Cutters
Thursday, November 6th
4:30-6:30 pm

Come and enjoy a cigar after work.



Cigar Cutters:
13451 McGregor Blvd
#28
Fort Myers, FL 33919

2025-2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

**DIAMOND
SPONSORSHIP:**
Tom Barrow Company

I would like to thank those of you who have already committed to sponsorships for the 25-26 society year.

We would encourage anyone who values their membership in SWFL ASHRAE to review the many benefits of sponsorship detailed in the annual sponsorship letter attached at the end of this newsletter.

If you have agreed to be a 25-26 sponsor and do not see your name listed below, please reach out.

gdevore@bandiflorida.com / (239) 671-6448

Thank you, we appreciate your continued support.

October CTTC



YEA at Cigar Cutters



Membership Promotion

Welcome members and possible new members to our ASHRAE SWF Chapter!

I personally want to welcome the returning members, as well as extend a hand of camaraderie to the prospective members. Members and perspective members will include many like-minded professionals, ranging from engineers to construction management teams, sales professionals, building automation and estimation specialists. All gambits of HVAC professional are present during our meetings, with a wealth of information at your disposal. Just extend an introduction, expand on friendships developed with members. We welcome back our seasoned members, as well as our new members.

We would like to remind our present members of the plethora of benefits, grade advancement, such as a Handbook PDF, an e-learning course, or a certification study guide. Advancement to a higher membership grade, with our help through the process.

To our potential members, what can ASHRAE do for you? Look no further for networking opportunities, technical resources, or career development. Testimonials from long-time members expressing the value of ASHRAE membership, and how ASHRAE has helped them grow professionally. Local events are monthly, with opportunities to chat, ask questions, furthering your knowledge of our expressed fields.

For our students and young professionals, there are scholarship opportunities, design competitions and grant aids. ASHRAE is here to assist you on your path to becoming a proficient asset to your future employer.

Monthly meetings will include either a "lunch and learn" atmosphere or evening meeting including dinner with the accompaniment of a visiting speaker. Many opportunities to learn and expand your knowledge base of our ever-growing industry. So just show up! Show up, feel at ease, and know you're in the company of like-minded folks that are eager to learn from each other and develop closer relationships.

To wrap things up, we need you! We need your presence and help! The only way we continue to make our local chapter thrive is with all of us being involved. Let's all set a goal of supporting ASHRAE, supporting each other, and making our local ASHRAE chapter something to see and be proud of this new year. Looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting or activity. Check out the newsletter for upcoming events. SEE YOU THERE!

Jeff Brooks, Membership Promotion Chair

QUICK READS

COOLING AND HEATING ICE RINKS WITH CO₂

The Swedish municipality of Östhammar drastically cut energy use at its Gimo ice rink by replacing its outdated ammonia-based refrigeration system with a direct 100% CO₂ system that also functions as a heat pump. This innovative setup makes the rink fully self-sufficient for heating, eliminating the need for external energy sources and reducing total energy consumption by 50–60%. The system recovers heat efficiently using a “waterfall” concept and geothermal storage, while CO₂’s properties allow lower operating costs, minimal auxiliary power use, and optimized heat recovery. The success of Gimo—Europe’s first rink of its kind—has sparked interest in CO₂-based refrigeration across Sweden and beyond, signaling a shift toward sustainable, cost-effective technologies for ice rinks of the future.

[Link to Article](#)

ARPA-H ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO ADVANCE IAQ

On September 29, The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) announced several research and development entities will receive funding under the Building Resilient Environments for Air and Total Health (BREATHE) program. The program aims to advance the next generation of smart and healthy buildings by developing integrated systems that will provide continual measurement and risk assessment of indoor air quality and deploy real-time interventions, like extra ventilation or disinfection, to reduce airborne threats to human health.

Credit: articles by GovAffairs@ashrae.org Government Affairs Update – September 09, 2025

[Link to Article](#)

EUROPEAN UNION HEAT PUMP TRANSITION PROGRAM GRANT CONCLUDES

Over the last three years, the EU ‘REDI4HEAT’ program has helped nations strengthen mandated national energy and climate plans and move toward renewable heating and cooling. The program received millions of euros of funding for a limited time from the EU, and successfully developed policy toolkits and capability building events to accelerate the uptake of renewable heating and cooling technology. The program concluded in late September with a final conference where participating nations and organizations shared lessons learned, roadmaps, and which tools they found most useful in their national projects to increase the scope, scale, and speed of sustainable technology adoption.

[Link to Article](#)

Student Activities

Florida West Coast Chapter Hosts B&I Contractors Facility Tour

The Florida West Coast Chapter of ASHRAE recently partnered with Gary Griffin, retired Chairman of B&I Contractors and adjunct professor at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), to organize an educational tour of B&I Contractors' state-of-the-art facilities. The event, designed to engage ASHRAE student members, provided an immersive look into the manufacturing processes behind HVAC and construction projects.

Held at B&I Contractors' headquarters, the tour showcased the company's advanced manufacturing operations, where students observed firsthand the production of materials critical to constructing high-quality mechanical systems. Gary Griffin, leveraging his extensive industry expertise and academic role, guided the group through the facility, highlighting the integration of engineering principles with real-world applications. The tour emphasized the importance of precision manufacturing in meeting project specifications and advancing sustainable building practices—core tenets of ASHRAE's mission.

Students had the opportunity to interact with industry professionals, ask questions about career paths, and explore the latest technologies used in the HVAC industry. The event fostered a deeper understanding of how ASHRAE standards are applied in professional settings and inspired students to consider careers in mechanical engineering and construction.

The Florida West Coast Chapter remains committed to bridging the gap between academia and industry through hands-on experiences like this tour. Special thanks to Gary Griffin and B&I Contractors for their dedication to nurturing the next generation of ASHRAE professionals.

Thank you to our Sponsors



2025-2026 Gold Sponsors



2025-2026 Silver Sponsors



2025-2026 Bronze Sponsors



YEAR-ROUND MOBILE ENGAGEMENT – ASHRAE 365

Download ASHRAE 365 using the buttons below from your mobile device or search on the App Store or Google Play.

Welcome to ASHRAE 365 – a free app providing year-round updates on all things ASHRAE. This 2-minute video provides a quick overview of what ASHRAE 365 has to offer including information about events and the ability to connect with other members, find resources, and support ASHRAE.

