

CHAPTER CHANGES, SPECIAL EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP, AND ROSTER

From 1959 to 1989 our chapter had steady growth with membership beginning at 151 members in 1961, changing to 122 in 1966, increasing to 160/20 (regular members / student members) in 1972, again increasing to 174/24 in 1976, jumping to 217/21 in 1980, leaping to 314/33 in 1983, soaring to 452/45 in 1986, dropping to 417/39 in 1989, down to 401/55 in 1992, and finally to 383/107 in 1995.

The Florida West Coast chapter was originally a part of Region IV which included chapters in Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico. In 1979, a new region was formed, Region XII, which included chapters in Florida, Southwest Georgia, and Puerto Rico only. From this new region emerged 9 chapters of which Florida West Coast was the largest at 263 members, with Miami being the second largest with 253 members in 1980-81.

A copy of our Rosters from 1974-75 and 1995-96 is included on the following pages.

Some of the reasons for our chapter growth include good programs and speakers, providing technical seminars, improvement of our chapter newsletter, dedicated involvement of our members on the board and grassroots committees, special events, and of course the rapid growth associated with the State of Florida in the 70's and 80's. Seminars, in particular, helped expand our participation from members and helped stir up new members. Roger Redman (Past President 1992-93) recalled that in the 70's and 80's the seminars were one of the major things our chapter did to generate income for research and chapter growth. We were able to provide numerous technical seminars over the years , and included is a flyer from one of the many typical seminars we had.

All of these things helped broaden our membership base, and we gathered members from surrounding communities that wanted to become an active part of such an active ASHRAE chapter.

A membership historical profile was generated by Society for this report and is stored in our chapter archives to record the exact data for the years from 1961-1995.

The Shrimp Boil -

In addition to membership growth, our chapter has many traditional events which have spurned new friends and new members. In 1979 we started having the annual Shrimp Boil. This event has always been well attended and began using the meeting facilities in the "Brown Bottle Room" at the Schlitz Brewery in Tampa. Later in the early 1980's, we moved the event around to several locations in Tampa and have held the event at the Davis Island Garden Club in Tampa for the past 6 years. This event typically draws members, families, contractors, engineers, reps, and we consume upwards of 200 pounds of shrimp each year.

The Shrimp Boil has traditionally been signified as one of our membership promotion meetings and has always been a big success. We are convinced that the camaraderie displayed at this event spilled over into our professional activities and we all have made new friends from this event.

Golf Outing -

In 1988, a member named Marty Vacari suggested having a golf outing to help promote ASHRAE research and Marty helped organize and collect sponsors, door prizes, and trophies for the event. Our first outing was held in May 1989. The first golf outing was held at the Rocky Point golf course in Tampa. We had a barbecue cookout after the Best Ball Tournament and an awards ceremony followed.

Ever since our first event, we have held an annual golf outing for ASHRAE research. Mr. Scott White and John Bastian have handled this event over the past 4 years and we typically hold the outing in May of each year. The turnout has been good with approximately 70-80 foursomes at each event. We also went to having hole sponsorships with signs recognizing the sponsors on the tee boxes.

In some years, this event has helped our chapter provide as much as a \$2-3,000.00 contribution from our chapter towards ASHRAE Research in addition to our contribution from members and businesses. We have been one of the leading contributors to ASHRAE research in our region and we credit a lot of this to the Golf Outing.

Included on the following page is a picture from our first Golf Outing in 1989.



First Annual Golf Outing - May 1989 Rocky Point Golf Course, Tampa, Florida
Center - Buzz Boissoneault(stripe shirt), Marty Vacari (yellow pants)