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### March Meeting

Tuesday March 14, 2023

#### Main Meeting Topic:

Geothermal Systems

#### Presenter:

Andrew Kozak, PE, AEE Fellow

Principle

BR+A Consulting Engineers

#### Tech Session Topic:

Well Drilling Experience

#### Presenter:

Martin Orio

Principle

Massachusetts Geothermal

### Register Here!

#### Where:

Embassy Suites by Hilton Waltham

550 Winter Street

Waltham, MA 02451

#### Time:

4:00-5:00 BOG Meeting (all are welcome!)

5:30-6:15 Tech Session

6:30-7:00 Plated Dinner

7:00-8:00 Main Meeting (1 PDH)

#### Cost:

Members—\$50

Non Members—\$60

ASHRAE Student Members with RSVP—Free



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## BOSTON CHAPTER OFFICERS 2022-2023



## President's Message

Hello everyone!

We had the honor of hosting ASHRAE distinguished lecturer Mr. Devin Abellon, P.E. who presented a thought-provoking take on "DEI and ASHRAE: Does it Really Matter" and a tech session about, "Radiant Heating and Cooling Systems". We sincerely thank everyone that were able to attend this session and contribute. Next months' meeting will be on March 14 at the Embassy Suite in Waltham, MA. It will be a joint meeting with the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) with ASHRAE Boston Chapter hosting the night. Please join us in welcoming our main session speaker Mr. Andrew Kozak PE, AEE Fellow. Mr. Kozak will be presenting on Geothermal Systems and sharing details about a project in Rockland County NY which features a central energy plant connected to a 280 well geothermal field with peak capacities over 1600 tons and heating peak capacity is over 26 MMBtu. Our technical session presentation will be Geothermal 101 presented by Mr. Martin Orio. Martin is co-founder and past President of The New England Geothermal Professional Association and is passionate about geothermal systems and on informing people on the costs, benefits, options, applications, and misapplications of ground source heat pump technology. For additional info on the topics and presenter's bio, please refer to their information in the newsletter.



President  
Vineet Nair  
CRB

If you are interested in joining our awesome team of volunteers, please do not hesitate to contact any of our board members on our newsletter or me. Volunteering with ASHRAE is an excellent way to give back to our growing industry and provides you the opportunity to network with your peers. Thank you for your continued support of ASHRAE and ASHRAE Boston Chapter.

Thank you for your continued support of ASHRAE and ASHRAE Boston Chapter,  
Vineet Nair  
ASHRAE Boston Chapter President 2022-2023



**There are many reasons to pursue certification. Find your reason.**

**Employers and Employees- are you interested in learning more about the Value of ASHRAE Certification?**  
Download an **"Executive Summary"** of 2021 survey results today.

## YEA Update



We are looking forward to the Flight Club event next Thursday 2/28 down in the Seaport. For all those who signed up, please let me know if you can no longer make it as the event is full and we do have a waitlist. We would like all 40 attendees to make it to the event. As winter looks to be winding down earlier than normal this year, spring is coming upon us, so we look to be able to get out and enjoy the fresh air. Please keep a look out on the calendar for updates on events. If there are any questions or you have more interest in being a bigger part of YEA please contact me.

Matt Hallock      matt@trumbullcampbell.com

## March Meeting

### Tech Session: WELL DRILLING EXPERIENCE

The technical session topic will be focused on some basics that the “indoor” engineers may want to know from the “outdoor” engineers where there is a disconnect-we need a bridge. We invited Martin to talk to us and our friends at AEE at our joint meeting. Martin and his “family” have a long history with Geothermal systems dating back over 45 years in the design business and distribution business- Water Energy Distributors, Inc. They have been involved in over 15,000 installations and love to talk about the heat beneath our feet. We welcome members and nonmembers to attend and learn about one aspect of recent trends towards decarbonization.

Presenter: Martin Orio, AI

Martin is owner and manager of Massachusetts Geothermal in Medfield, MA. Martin focuses on residential complexes and smaller commercial site geothermal installations. Martin is co-founder and past President of The New England Geothermal Professional Association. Martin is passionate about geothermal systems and on informing people on the costs, benefits, options, applications and misapplications of ground source heat pump technology. Martin remains active with the Geothermal Association and speaks at industry events in the region.



Martin Orio  
Principle  
Massachusetts Geothermal

### Main Presentation: GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS

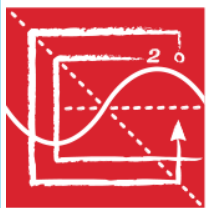
The Watchtower Headquarters Project Ramapo is a live work play campus located in Rockland County NY. The campus will be situated on 280 wooded acres and contain over 2 million square feet of new construction. There will be 1,300 residential apartments along with a Media Center, Events Center an office building and a swim/cardio fitness center. The dining room survey will include an all-electric commercial kitchen. The existing wetlands will be preserved and there will be over 3 miles of nature trails. All of the buildings on the campus will be high performance, exceeding the requirements of the NYS Stretch Code and include advanced HVAC systems and aggressive heat recovery strategies. All heating and cooling will be provided from a fossil-fuel-free central energy plant connected to a 280 well geothermal field. Each well is 800 feet deep and utilizes a 4” concentric heat exchanger. The peak cooling capacity of the plant/field is over 1600 tons and heating peak capacity is over 26 MMBtu.

Presenter: Andrew Kozak

Andrew is a Principal at BR+A engineers in New York City where he leads a combined Mechanical and Energy Engineering group. He is a licensed professional engineer in 15 states and a Fellow with the Association of Energy Engineers. Andrew’s engineering career spans over 25 years engaging many diverse projects including hospitals, high rise buildings, higher education, thermal distribution networks, and work in the Canadian nuclear industry. Andrew is also an educator who lectures at both the Graduate and Undergraduate levels, most recently with the NYU Tandon School of Engineering. He is passionate about energy engineering and applies a deeply analytical and solutions driven approach to his work. This work recognized in the industry for Net Zero Carbon and Fossil Fuel Free buildings and campuses. His most recent work is the Watchtower live/work/play campus in Ramapo, NY which is fossil fuel free and includes a 280-well geothermal field.



Andrew Kozak,  
PE, AEE Fellow  
Principle  
BR+A Consulting Engineers



**NCEES**  
*advancing licensure for  
engineers and surveyors*

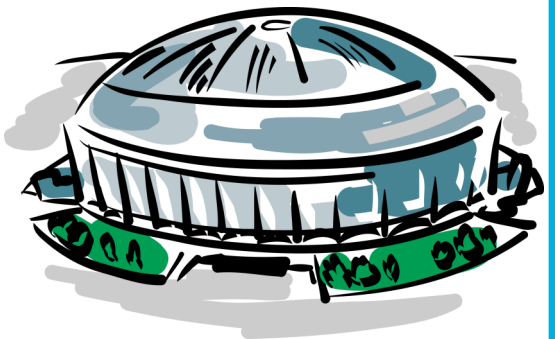
### NCEES PE Mechanical Engineering Survey 2022

Please participate in this survey of the practice of professional mechanical engineering conducted on behalf of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) by Pearson VUE. [Click here.](#)

### 2023 ASHRAE LowDown Showdown

Sign up now and unleash your design and modeling skills, collaborate with project team members and showcase your innovative building design to conference attendees!

That is the challenge! Teams will be asked to envision a new creative reuse of the Houston Astrodome to provide needed urban amenities and to do so within the constraints of reduced fossil fuel use and reduced carbon emissions. Teams will be given the freedom to think out of the box to determine how this voluminous, enclosed structure can bring meaningful activities and/or services to the Houston area. [Sign up here.](#)



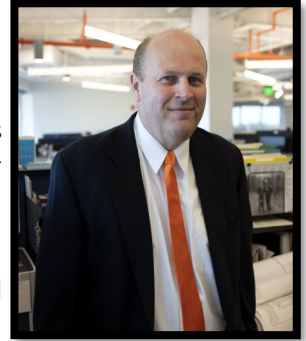
## Historical News

By: Eric Edman - BR+A

Hello fellow members,

From the history desk.... this live update... we made history.

No, sad enough, it was not the Patriots winning another Superbowl. It was not the Sox, B's or C's either winning the grand title. It was us mortal humans in ASHRAE. Our humble chapter saw not one, but two members raised to the title of ASHRAE Fellow. This is indeed a grand time in our history.



Eric Edman  
Historian



*Mr. Gordon Sharp with ASHRAE President Farooq Mehboob*

Mr. Gordon Sharp, and Mr. Anand Seth were both awarded this special honor at the Plenary session in Atlanta at the 2023 ASHRAE Winter Meeting. This is indeed a huge honor for both men. I am incredibly fortunate to be involved and play a part in all of this. If you see Gordon in your travels, give him a hearty congratulations for all he has done, and continues to do for ASHRAE.

Anand Seth passed away before he could accept the award. We worked with ASHRAE to allow his niece the honor of accepting the award for him posthumously. This is yet another instance where I am humbled to be involved in all that we stand for in ASHRAE.

The Plenary Session coincided with another historical first. There was a special historical presentation from our Society. The Regional Vice Chair (RVC) from every region worldwide was present, as well as about 35% of the chapter historians worldwide. Sadly, I missed it but I hope to share photos and news of this event in a future newsletter.



*Accepting the fellow award on behalf of Anand Seth is his niece - Mrs. Kimberly McGhee pictured with ASHRAE president Farooq Mehboob.*

Until next month-stay warm,  
Eric  
c001his@ashrae.org

Presidential Award of Excellence									
Boston Chapter - 2022-2023									
Chapter Members	Membership Promotion Points (1600)	Student Activities Points (800)	Research Promotion Points (1050)	History Points (300)	Chapter Operations Points (1200)	Chapter Technology Transfer Points (1050)	Government Affairs Points (1000)	Electronic Communications Points (700)	YEA Points (900)
<u>1002</u>	<u>1715</u>	<u>690</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>1075</u>

## Government Affairs

By Ben Pignatelli

### Some Massachusetts lawmakers look to rescind approved electricity price hikes.

With the price oil and now natural gas coming down since Massachusetts' electricity rates were set, the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) has been called upon to reassess the rate increases. Eversource raised electric rates by 43% and National Grid by 64% for the 6 winter months this year.

### Hey Mass. residents, your monthly gas bill is about to go down.

The MA DPU has ordered utilities to reduce the price of natural gas they provide to customers. "The savings aren't huge — National Grid estimates that the average household will save about \$11 per month, while Eversource predicts a \$33 reduction. ... Under Massachusetts law, the department can order a reduction (or increase) in something called the "supply rate" if natural gas prices rise or fall dramatically on the open market."

Ben Pignatelli  
Government Affairs  
c001gac@ashrae.net

# Battle Rankings

**Membership Battle Update - These employers have had the most new members join since July 1st.**

**MIT has moved into FIRST PLACE!**

**FIRST**

- MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**SECOND**

- AHA CONSULTING ENGINEERS
- WSP
- CONSIGLI Est. 1953

**THIRD**

- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
- WPI
- ADC
- BRA
- SMMA
- APA HVAC TECHNOLOGIES
- HARVARD UNIVERSITY



## ASHRAE Honors and Awards

Did you know that most ASHRAE members meet the criteria for an award either on the local, regional or society level. Each month I will be highlighting honors and awards that you the member can pursue. Speaking of member, the main criteria for any awards is that you are a full member, so if you have never upgraded from an associate member to full member that is the first step that will be needed to be done. It is a form you can get online to upgrade your membership, there is no financial impact and will entitle you to other full membership perks.

Take a look at the presentation for an overview of what is available for honors and awards . **Click the slide below!**

Any Questions please reach out to me.  
Bob Persechini  
[bob.persechini@nv5.com](mailto:bob.persechini@nv5.com)



## The 2022 Technology Awards Program

The ASHRAE Technology Awards program recognizes, on an international scale, successful applications of innovative design, which incorporate ASHRAE standards for effective energy management, indoor air quality, and good mechanical design. All current members of ASHRAE may submit entries.

ASHRAE Technology Award winners are recognized by peers as being innovative and capable of achieving a high level of competence. Winning projects are highlighted in articles in the ASHRAE Journal. The Society provides press releases to industry publications and ASHRAE Insights.

Recipients are honored at the Plenary Session of the Society's Winter Meeting, where the first-place awards as well as the "Engineering Award of Excellence" are presented. One award plaque will be presented to an entrant representing the design team, and another plaque will be presented to the building owner. The winning design firm may purchase additional plaques.

With any questions, please email Lance Brown. C001cttc@ashrae.net

All current members of ASHRAE may submit entries. Please submit ([Short Form](#)) by May 1<sup>st</sup>

### ATTENTION!

All corporate sponsors need to register for the 2023 Calendar Year!

Please contact

**Bob Persechini**

*bob.persechini@nv5.com*

For more information

**Welcome  
New  
ASHRAE  
Boston  
Members**

We welcome those that joined our chapter this summer!

- Xueyuan Zhao
- Tony Penta
- Michael Trinidad
- Mike O'Shaughnessy
- Jeremy Rhines
- Gabriel Rodriguez
- Amanda Kirkeby
- Ciaran Hourihan
- Kent Ingraham
- Ryan Doak
- Evan Serros
- Connor Donaghey
- Charles Gibson

## History Special Feature Eric Edman



*Postcard of Custom House Tower*

Another one of my personal favorites... a beautiful Boston skyscraper still stands tall in the Financial District, after more than 100 years. The picture below features this classic building. The postcard is a 100 years old, when picture postcards were the means and methods of social media exchange. Notice some key facts printed upon it, the architect, the general contractor, the height, and number of floors. I was curious to learn who may have been the HVAC engineer over a hundred years ago.



**Eric Edman**  
Historian

The Custom House Tower is the 28-story building in McKinley Square, dominating the skyline since its completion in 1915. The original U.S. Custom House was completed in 1847. It is pictured below. It was built of granite from Quincy's Pine Hill quarry. It was an American work of art, and all materials came from this state. I might be inclined to say it could earn LEED status just for using locally sourced materials.

Around 1902, our governmental agencies had outgrown the original building. In response, Robert Peabody, a Massachusetts native and partner in the prestigious architecture firm Peabody & Stearns, proposed constructing a new tower above the rotunda. The new tower would symbolize Boston's status as one of the country's leading port cities. John Stearns was the design engineer, and man chiefly responsible for keeping schedule and budget. It is not clear from records but we do suspect he was the scientific mind behind the mechanical and electrical systems as well as another key component, the elevator.



*Original Custom House Tower*

In this period, the city zoning codes capped the height of new structures at 125 feet. But because the federal government owned and occupied the property, the Custom House Tower was permitted to rise to an unprecedented 495 feet. It became Boston's tallest building, a title it maintained from 1915 until the completion of the Prudential Tower in 1964.

It took approximately three years for the Norcross Brothers of Worcester, to build the granite-clad tower. To carry the tower weight, they fashioned eight steel columns supported by trusses around the dome. The Corinthian columns that once held up the dome were removed and are over at the Franklin Park Zoo, where they still stand today. More LEED points for creative reuse! All this BEFORE that was even a thing.

One of my personal favorites is still yours to explore in downtown. So, if you want to tour a piece of history and impress some friends-go for a joy ride up to about 400 feet above Boston sidewalks. If you are fortunate, you can make a reservation for up to 8 people to visit the observation deck. Two day advance notice is required, and it is only open once daily. One of my panorama shots looking towards the airport is shown below.

I had tried looking for the heating plans for this amazing building at the Boston Public Library. Even with some assistance, I was unable to locate any plans or even any mention of who may have been the heating contractor. Another one of those things that happen is famous buildings are made, the architect and the general contractor are recognized, and the heating team get the satisfaction of a job completed.

The lower portions of the building are closed to the public. From past written records there had to be coal fired steam plant during the early years with a live in engineer. This has now converted to natural gas based on the large outdoor gas meter. There are some things even us historians can figure out from the outside.

We truly hope you have enjoyed another special feature from some corner of our city history that you may never had thought about. That is what makes it fun from our viewpoint. Thanks to the person who suggested this piece for our monthly special feature. I'm lucky to have so many keenly interested people within our chapter who contribute in one way or another.

*Eric's Panoramic Shot Facing East*

We look forward to seeing you in the months ahead. Do not be bashful if you want to drop a note about something you want mentioned. We do the leg work and everyone can benefit.

All the best from your historical team. —Eric



# Register as our 2023 Corporate Sponsors!

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**SILVER SPONSORS**








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Cooling Tower Sales & Services

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location	Event Information
<del>Sept. 13, 2022</del>	<del>September Meeting</del>	<del>Doubletree Boston-Cambridge</del>	<del>Topic: COMPRESSOR TECHNOLOGY Presenter: Mark W. Fly, PE</del>
<del>Oct. 11, 2022</del>	<del>October Meeting</del>	<del>Embassy Suites Waltham</del>	<del>Topic: DECARBONIZATION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS Presenter: Joe Dussault &amp; Jesse Stallions</del>
<del>Nov. 2, 2022</del>	<del>Product Show</del>	<del>Marriott Quincy</del>	<del>Details on Page 4</del>
<del>Dec. 7, 2022</del>	<del>YEA Social</del>	<del>Night Shift Brew</del>	<del><a href="#">Details here.</a></del>
<del>Dec. 13, 2022</del>	<del>December Meeting</del>	<del>Doubletree Boston / Cambridge</del>	<del>Topic: HEAT EXCHANGERS Presenter: Tracey Putnam</del>
<del>Jan. 10, 2023</del>	<del>January Meeting</del>	<del>Embassy Suites Waltham</del>	<del>Topic: LIQUID SUBCOOLING Presenter: Peter Fung</del>
<del>Feb. 15, 2023</del>	<del>February Meeting</del>	<del>Doubletree Boston / Cambridge</del>	<del>Topic: DEI &amp; ASHRAE: DOES IT REALLY MATTER? Presenter: Devin Abellon, P.E.</del>
Feb. 23, 2023	YEA/DiA Joint Social	Flight Club Seaport	<a href="#">Details here.</a>
Mar. 14, 2023	March Meeting	Embassy Suites Waltham	Topic: GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS Presenter: Andrew Kozak, P.E.
Apr. 2023	YEA Event	TBD	Details to follow.
Apr. 11, 2023	April Meeting	TBD	Topic: COOLING TOWERS Presenter: TBD
Apr. 2023	DiA Event	TBD	Details to follow.
May 9, 2023	May Meeting	TBD	Topic: ENERGY MODELING Presenter: Drew Crawley
May 15, 2023	ASHRAE Golf Outing	Granite Links	Details to follow.
June 2023	YEA Event	TBD	Details to follow.

[Boston ASHRAE Facebook](#)



[Boston ASHRAE](#)



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\*The calendar is subject to changes, please see the [ASHRAE Boston Chapter website](#) for the most up to date information!

Boston Monthly Meetings	ASHRAE Society— <a href="#">Complete List</a>
Boston Chapter Special Events	YEA Events
DiA Events	Other Societies Events

# BOSTON CHAPTER OFFICERS



**President**  
Vineet Nair  
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c001@ashrae.net



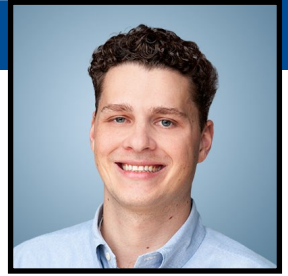
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**Secretary**  
Kiersten Washle  
CMTA  
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**Treasurer**  
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<p><b>Attendance</b> Drew Brown FIA Inc.</p> <p><b>Communications, Web, &amp; Publicity</b> Ben Kleine-Klacht CMTA c001web@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Diversity in ASHRAE</b> Amy Gebhardt Emerson Swan c001bog2@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Golf Outing</b> Matt Hallock APA Benjamin Almond HTS</p> <p><b>Government Affairs</b> Ben Pignatelli Energy Solutions c001gac@ashrae.net</p>	<p><b>Historian</b> Eric Edman BR+A c001his@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Honors &amp; Awards &amp; Nominating</b> Bob Persechini NV5 c001ha@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Newsletter Editor</b> Jake O'Donnell FES jake@fesone.com</p> <p><b>Membership Promotion</b> Timothy Driscoll Siemens c001memc@ashrae.net</p> <p>Josephine Wendroth CMTA jwendroth@cmta.com</p>	<p><b>Refrigeration</b> Steven Tafone Suffolk Construction c001ref@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Research Promotion</b> Will Fisher FIA, Inc. c001cttc@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Special Events</b> Amy Gebhardt Emerson Swan c001bog2@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Student Activities &amp; Scholarship</b> Steven Rosen Jacobs steven.rosen@jacobs.com</p> <p><b>Sustainability</b> Kiersten Washle CMTA c001sus@ashrae.net</p>	<p><b>Technology Transfer</b> Lance Brown AKF c001sec@ashrae.net</p> <p><b>Young Engineers in ASHRAE</b> Matt Hallock APA c001yea@ashrae.net</p> <p>Mary Kandaras Buro Happold</p> <p><b>Corporate Sponsorships</b> Bob Persechini NV5 c001ha@ashrae.net</p>
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**Professional Development**  
Professional Development Chair Needed!

Positions are open!  
Please contact Chapter President at c001@ashrae.net if you are interested!