

2017 History Paper

West Virginia Chapter ASHRAE

June 27, 2017

Arthur “Art” D. Hallstrom, P.E., BEMP, Fellow/Life Member – ASHRAE



Art Hallstrom was born in September, 1946 at Evanston Hospital in Evanston, IL. Art has been involved in the HVAC industry since starting his professional career in 1973 with The Trane Company as an Applications Engineer. Art remains active in the HVAC business through his involvement in ASHRAE, particularly the West Virginia Chapter, and through his training and education classes on energy efficiency, energy code adoption, and other industry related topics.

Art grew up in Evanston and graduated from an Evanston Township High School. After high school, he attended the University of Illinois where he graduated in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering (BSME). He then went on to graduate school and attended DePaul University in Chicago, IL. He graduated in 1971 with a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA). During his time in college, Art was in the ROTC program, because, in his words, “it sounded interesting.” Upon his graduation from DePaul University he entered the United States Army.

While attending the University of Illinois, Art met his future wife, Janet Nelson. They were married in June 1969 and just celebrated their 48th Wedding Anniversary.

Art served 2 years active duty in the US Army. He was stationed at Ft. Belvoir in Virginia and Ft. Leavenworth in Kansas during his initial active duty term. Art entered the Army during the Vietnam War while the country was still drafting young men. The Army selected him for weapons development as opposed to a combat position, due to his educational background. During his time on active duty, Art obtained his commercial and instrument pilots license.

Art's commitment to the Army did not stop after his discharge in 1973. He signed with the Wisconsin National Guard because they offered him an engineering company command

promoting him to Captain. He commanded the 229th Engineers and three years later they determined Art's passion and expertise was in the computer field, and as they say, the rest is history. He stayed in computer related assignments for the next 24 years which included a half year active duty at Fort Leavenworth attending the US Army Command and General Staff College. His final military year was with the Army Reserve – 84th Division in Milwaukee, WI. He retired from the Army in 1997 with the rank of LT Colonel.

When Art left the Army in 1973, he was offered an opportunity to join Trane in LaCrosse, WI. Art really didn't know much about the Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) industry at the time, but he accepted the position because it "sounded interesting". Art held various positions within Trane during his initial tenure with the company including Applications Engineer, Product Manager, and Senior Principal Engineer, just to name a few. His boss within Trane, Neil Patterson, required him to join ASHRAE. That boss later went on to become an ASHRAE Society President.

In 1987, Art decided to try something different and left Trane to take the position of Division President with Digisonics, part of Nelson Industries, in Stoughton, WI. In this position, he headed development, sales and production of digital electronic noise cancellation systems. At the time, this technology was considered leading edge, high technology in the industry. Their products can reduce noise by 25 dB narrowband and 10 dB broadband. Art left Digisonics in 1990 to return to the Trane.

In 1993, Trane relocated some of their operations to branch plants and Art chose to relocate to Lexington, KY for additional career opportunities within Trane. During this second tenure with Trane, he held various new positions including Fan Product Manager, Custom Air-Handler Manager, Airside Applications Manager, Global Airside Applications Manager and Custom Options Development Team Manager. Art remained with the Trane Company in Lexington, KY until his retirement in 2010.

In 2004, Art started his own firm, AD Hall and Associates, and continues to serve as President. Originally a real estate management business, it later added consulting to the list of services provided. In 2011, he also became the Executive Director for ae3, LLC. The service he provides

through both companies is Educational Training on various HVAC and energy related subjects, systems development and event management consulting.

Since joining ASHRAE in 1976, Art has worked his way up through the society and is known by many of his peers for his commitment and contributions to ASHRAE on all levels – Chapter, Region and Society. Art has been a member of several different Chapters of ASHRAE. The three primary chapters he has been involved with are LaCrosse, Bluegrass (Lexington, KY area) and West Virginia. As a member of these Chapter's, he has served as the Chair and member of most committees within each Chapter (MP, RP, GGAC, SA, CTTC). He has also served in every Chapter Leadership role, including being elected President of two of these Chapters – LaCrosse and Bluegrass.

On a Regional level, Art has been involved in every aspect of Region VII's leadership. He currently holds the position of Regional Vice Chair (RVC) of the Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee. He has been the treasurer of Region VII, as well as the Regions Electronic Communications Chair. Art served a 3-year term as the Director and Regional Chair (DRC) from 2005 – 2008.

On a Society level, Art has been a Chair, Vice-Chair or member of Technical Committees (TC), Special Projects Committees and AdHoc Committees, too numerous to list here. During his time as DRC of Region VII he served on the ASHRAE Board of Directors. Art's dedication to ASHRAE can be seen through the different Awards of Recognition he has received from the society. His awards include: Distinguished Service Award, Fellow Award, Chuck Koptis Memorial Research Promotion Award, Chapter Service Award, Regional Award of Merit, Exceptional Service Award, and Government Advocacy Award.

Art is also a well published author within the HVAC industry. He has contributed to the publication of 15 books, 7 papers and 19 articles. Many of these are from his time working for Trane and are part of Trane Applications Manuals.

Art has been one of the driving forces in the formation of the new West Virginia Chapter of ASHRAE (Chartered in 2013). It was during the time of Art's DRC Leadership that the former Mountaineer Chapter nearly dissolved, but was kept in operation as a Section under the

Bluegrass Chapter until it was reformed with new boundaries encompassing the entire state. Art continues to guide all of the West Virginia Chapter leaders in their roles to establish a solid foundation for the future of this new Chapter. With Art's guidance and determination, the West Virginia Chapter is being honored as a Premier Chapter in 2017. The West Virginia Chapter is fortunate and grateful to have Art within our membership and leadership. To show that appreciation, the West Virginia Chapter is working to establish the Arthur D. Hallstrom Scholarship.

As you can see, Art has devoted much of his life to his professional career, to his peers and to ASHRAE, but he also enjoys his private life outside of this. As mentioned earlier, Art and his wife Janet just celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary. They have three children, Eric, Kristen and Anders and three grandchildren. Art and his wife are members of the Trinity Hill Methodist Church in Lexington, KY. In his spare time, Art enjoys flying, skiing, boating, caving, scuba diving, and working on house renovations.