



# The Squirrel Cage

Alamo Chapter #65

San Antonio, Texas

VOL XLVI No. 6

January 2007

## Presidents Message:



I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday. How about those Red Raiders!!! What a comeback. Too bad I didn't actually SEE the game, but you will know why when you read the end of this.

As mentioned last month, we are very fortunate to have Mr. Terry Townsend visit our chapter this month. He will be our main speaker and will be discussing ASHRAE's vision of sustainable design. Let's all make a big effort to attend this meeting, as I'd like to have a good showing.

The directory should be published this month and we should be able to dis-

tribute it by the February meeting. I want to apologize for it being so late again this year, however, in this particular case, we have actually had it done for about a month now.

We have been waiting for ASHRAE Society in Atlanta to update their database so we can publish the correct roster information. This was finally received on January 2nd, so we are working hard to get that data put in the book and send it to the printer.

Now some personal stuff. I took a week off around Christmas time expecting to do some serious deer hunting, watch the Tech game, and catch up on some work but alas, the cold and flu season struck my family.

I ended up spending 12 days taking care of two sick kids. And you know what? I actually enjoyed it. You may think I'm crazy, but I actually enjoyed spending all that time with my family, even with all the

crying and sniffles. I learned a lot about what my wife does day in and day out, who is a "stay at home" mom.

I also learned that my two-year old has one heck of a vocabulary and his favorite new food is waffles and syrup. My little girl loves Elmo and Dora the Explorer and if you watch these shows too often, boy do those songs get stuck in your head.

OK, why am I telling you all this? Well...sometimes life is more than football, deer hunting and air conditioning. Just a little revelation I had over the break.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting this month.

Sincerely,

Travis McLeod, P.E.  
Chapter President  
tmcLeod@txap.com

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Time: Lunch 11:30 AM  
Meeting 12:00 PM

Place: Oak Hills Country Club, 5403 Fredericksberg Road

Cost: \$15.00 with reservations, \$20.00 without reservations

**The 2006-2007 President of ASHRAE, Terry E. Townsend, P.E., will be joining the Alamo Chapter meeting on Tuesday January 16, 2007 to speak on Sustainable Design.**

Meeting Sponsor: Carter Burgess

Please make your reservations early and join us in this very informative meeting.

RSVP w/Rezaur Rahman:  
rezaur@esaengineers.net

**Please Visit [www.alamoashrae.org](http://www.alamoashrae.org)**

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*Please send information to: Peter Teige  
ADDRESS: 16900 Jordan Rd., Selma, TX 78154  
TEL: 210-249-3843 FAX: 210-651-9085  
EMAIL: [peter\\_teige@munters.com](mailto:peter_teige@munters.com)*

# BOG Meeting: January 3rd, 2007

## Attending:

Al Garza	Brian Uhlrich
Melvin Pipes	Fred Gleeson
Liz Williams	Manuel Lizcano
Oscar Zuniga	James Drewry
Paul Deltz	Travis McLeod
Howard Decker	

## Meeting Minutes:

1. Travis and Al discussed the status of the taxes for the chapter. Emphasis was put on the fact that we need to have them completed by the end of January. Susan Wootton has been hired to file for the Chapter, at a rate of \$250 per year.

2. All officers donated \$100 to ASHRAE Research, in an effort to meet the "Full Circle Award".

3. Logistics were discussed for the January meeting with Terry Townsend. Liz and Brian agreed to help promote the meeting to the local AIA and USGBC membership.

4. Liz agreed to send invoices to all meeting sponsors so we can collect our sponsorship fees.

5. Newsletter was discussed. Everyone agreed that we should get the committee chairs to write a least one article per year. Travis requested that both the Secretary and Treasurer file their reports to Peter Teige by the 1st of each month, so we can send out the newsletter in a timely manner.

6. The remaining programs for the year were discussed. Liz is to update the programs list and report back next month.

7. Golf tournament was discussed. The need for a committee chair was requested, in order to help get sponsors and coordinate the event. Travis is to call several people to see if we can fill that position.

8. Alamo ASHRAE Directories are planned to be handed out at the February

9. Education courses have been tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

## Meeting Dates & Topics

**Tuesday, January 16, 2007**

Sustainable Design: TERRY TOWNSEND

**Tuesday, February 27 2007**

Insulation - Low Temp Design

**Tuesday, March 20, 2007**

ASHRAE RESEARCH project

**Tuesday, April 17, 2007**

Engineering Ethics

**Tuesday, May 15 2007**

T&B Panel Discussion

**Tuesday, June 19, 2007**

Data Center Design

## Contact List

### Officers

President  
Travis McLeod  
210-495-8100  
tmcleod@txap.com

President - Elect.  
James Drewry  
210-541-9446  
jdrewry@jd3engineering.com

Secretary  
Al Garza  
210-658-0900  
agarza@alamocontrols.com

Treasurer  
Gene Raanes  
210-494-0088  
gene.raanes@c-b.com

### Board of Governors

Manuel Lizcano  
210-732-4440  
lizcano@swbell.net

Fred Gleeson  
210-340-2533  
fredg@htseng.com

Melvin Pipes  
210-496-6631  
melvin.pipes@york.com

Oscar Zuniga  
210-522-2923  
ozuniga@swri.org

### Committee Chairs

Membership Promotion  
Paul Naizer  
210-241-4138  
paul.naizer@lennoxind.com

Student Activities  
Brian Uhlrich  
210-546-0200  
buhlrich@dbrinc.com

Research Promotion  
Mark Pickett  
(210) 340-2533  
markp@htseng.com

Chapter Technology Transfers  
Elizabeth William  
210-469-6631  
elizabeth.williams@york.com

Newsletter Editor  
Peter Teige  
210-651-5018  
peter\_teige@munters.com

Website Editor  
Manuel Lizcano  
210-732-4440  
lizcano@swbell.net

Refrigeration Chair  
Oscar Zuniga  
210-522-2923  
ozuniga@swri.org

Historian  
Manuel Lizcano  
210-732-4440  
lizcano@swbell.net

CTTC  
John Freund, P.E.  
210-494-1691  
JohnF@comfort-air.com

## January SABCA Seminars:

Another series of great seminars will be provided next month by the San Antonio Building Codes Academy (SABCA) as follows:

**January 24, 2007 - 2005 National Electrical Code national updates**

**January 25, 2007 - 2006 International Mechanical Code national updates**

**January 26, 2007 - 2006 Uniform Plumbing Code national updates**

Design professionals, contractors, subcontractors and codes administration personnel will all find the seminars helpful in understanding the changes that have taken place in each of the aforementioned codes.

I hope to see your members at these seminars as we familiarize ourselves with the various changes in these codes.

Also, in May 2007 SABCA seminars will cover the 2006 International Fire Code and the 2006 International Existing Building Code. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

J. Barry Archer, C.B.O.

E-mail: [Barry.Archer@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Barry.Archer@sanantonio.gov)



### ***“Remember the Alamo”***

La Segunda Compañía Volante de San Carlos de Parras (Álamo de Parras), The Second Flying Company of San Carlos de Parras moved into the Catholic mission San Antonio de Valero in January 1803. The mission had been authorized by the viceroy.

As intermarriages occurred within the community, a settlement grew near the mission known as El Barrio del Álamo. Later marriages and a subsequent surge in population were the basis for a district near the mission on the banks of the San Antonio River called La Villita. The Álamo de Parras Company founded the first military hospital in San Antonio by 1805, in the upper level of the mission convent. It served both the military and civilian populations of Mexico in 1716. The mission was originally established by Father Antonio Olivares in 1718 on the west bank of the San Antonio River. Later, after destruction of the structure by a hurricane in 1724 it was relocated to its present location on the east bank. The mission San Antonio del Valero was

the first of five missions established near the head of the San Antonio River. Their purpose was to develop missionary-directed-indigenous towns. By the late 1700's the permanent Indian residents had become part of the developing community. In 1793 it was secularized and the structure continued to deteriorate. In 1800 Spain returned the Louisiana territory to France. Concerns of an invasion from the United States compounded with Indian raids, cattle rustling and smuggling plaguing the Texas province required the reinforcement of military protection. Enter the Calvary. In January 1803 a company of 100 Spanish lancers moved in to the mission de Valero. The men came from the pueblo of San Jose y Santiago del Alamo, near Parras in southern Coahuila, Mexico. This company of seasoned veterans supplemented the small group of soldiers garrisoned at the San Antonio de Bexar Presidio. As a mounted contingent they served at times as couriers and escorts to the Spanish governor. In time there were more than 200 men, women, and children in the Alamo military community within the mission's walls. Some occupied the abandoned quarters inside the walls of the compound. Other soldiers with families lived in jacals, crude huts initially built within the compound for protection. Unmarried soldiers were housed in the lower floor of the mission's convent,

called the Long Barracks, or in buildings procured nearby. As intermarriage occurred within the community, a settlement grew near the mission known as El Barrio del Álamo. Later marriages and a subsequent surge in population were the basis for a district near the mission on the banks of the San Antonio River called La Villita. The Álamo de Parras Company founded the first military hospital in San Antonio by 1805, in the upper level of the mission convent. It served both the military and civilian populations.

The Catholic mission San Antonio de Valero, was never official renamed “El Alamo” it just evolved clearly from the association with La Segunda compania Volante de San Carlos de Alamo de Parras.

The Alamo Chapter is also an evolution. It was originally named The Southwest Texas Chapter the name was changed in the chapter meeting of March 17, 1959 for the merger of ASHAE and ASRE since there was an existing chapter in ASRE with the same name.

The Rest is History

*Advancing ASHRAE Technology and Our Future*



Manuel F. Lizcano, Historian

# UTSA Engineering Students Receive Scholarships

By Kris Rodriguez  
Public Affairs Specialist



(Dec. 20, 2006)--The Alamo Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to UTSA mechanical engineering students Cameron Crandall, Jeremy Mercer and Emeterio Rios.

"We would like to acknowledge

the strong pool of applicants and note that the recipients have done a great job in their courses," said Travis McLeod, ASHRAE president. "With these scholarships we recognize their academic performance and encourage them to consider employment in the heating and air conditioning field upon graduation."

For more than a decade, ASHRAE's financial support has helped UTSA engineering students to complete their education and begin careers in the heating and air conditioning maintenance industry.

For more information, call (210) 458-5522.

## Major Study of Aircraft Cabin Air Quality Launched by ASHRAE

ATLANTA – Good afternoon and thank you for flying with us. We want to make sure you are as comfortable as possible during the flight, so please let us know – how's the air quality? Is the temperature ok? Do we need to adjust the lighting? Thanks again for flying Indoor Comfort Airlines.

This is the message millions of U.S. and international airline passengers could be hearing in the near future thanks to a study funded by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and conducted by Battelle, a Columbus, Ohio-based global services and technology enterprise.

The research project will examine the link between aircraft cabin air and health symptoms and discomfort experienced by passengers and crew members.

"The aircraft cabin is a challenging microenvironment for maintaining the health, comfort and well-being of passengers and crew," said Jeff Myers, principal investigator for Battelle. "Space is limited, conditions can feel cramped, the outside environment is extreme, and travelers may experience anxiety over

loss of control over their situation and environment. Through this study, we will determine the causes of passenger and crew discomfort and use that information to make flights more comfortable."

More than 600 million passengers fly U.S. carriers each year, with thousands of crew members spending much of their working time in densely packed airliner cabins.

During flights, passengers and crew can experience noise, reduced atmospheric pressure, poor lighting, vibration, low relative humidity, variable temperature and potential air quality degradation.

The study, set to begin early this year, will be carried out on several international and domestic commercial airlines. It also has the support of the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Transportation Center of Excellence for Airliner Cabin Environment Research.

Results from the research could be used by manufacturers to modify aircraft to improve air quality or by airline companies to make more low-impact changes, such as adjustment of lighting.

As part of the research, passengers

on 160 flights will be surveyed about their perceptions of air quality on the flight. The flights will vary in distance, lengths and time zones.

Following the surveys, the top causes for statistical variation (such as the most complaints by time zone) will be ranked. Scientists then will travel on those flights, using on-board monitoring instruments to measure carbon monoxide and dioxide, respirable particles and volatile organic compounds among others.

The research is the second phase of a \$1.8 million research project. In the first phase in 2004, passengers and crew surveyed on four flights out of Cincinnati, Salt Lake City, Chicago and Seattle indicated that the overall cabin air quality was adequate.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of 55,000 persons. ASHRAE, headquartered in Atlanta, fulfills its mission of advancing heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education.



Request for Council Action  
Agenda Item # 25  
Council Meeting Date:  
1/11/2007  
RFCA Tracking No: R-750

DEPARTMENT:  
Environmental Services  
DEPARTMENT HEAD:  
Rose Ryan

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S)  
IMPACTED:  
City Wide

SUBJECT:  
An ordinance amending the  
City's current energy code

**SUMMARY:**  
This ordinance will adopt the 2000 International Energy Conservation Code with 2001 supplement and local amendments requiring additional energy efficiency measures. Generally, these new measures include: increased energy conservation restrictions for exterior and interior lighting, exit signage, commercial swimming pools, and controls for water heating equipment and insulation.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**  
A Council Consideration Request (CCR) authored by Councilmembers Hall and Radle, dated June 29, 2006 directed City staff to update the current energy code. Originally, the intent was to adopt the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) replacing the state standard which is the 2000 IECC with 2001 supplement. Several public meetings were held with various stakeholders, including the

Greater San Antonio Builders Association, San Antonio Real Estate Council, Mechanical Board, and Electrical Board.

The state adopted the 2000 IECC and the 2001 supplement in order to establish uniform energy codes across the state. Local amendments to this code may be made, so long as they do not result in less stringent regulations. State Law mandates that the Texas A&M Energy System's Laboratory (ESL) is the reviewing authority charged with ensuring that local amendments are not less stringent than the 2000 IECC and 2001 supplement. The ESL determined that the 2006 IECC, as a whole, was not as stringent as the 2000 IECC, which in turn resulted in the Mechanical Board's disinclination to support a local amendment.

ESL reviewed the 2006 IECC and has proposed an amendment that would make the 2006 IECC more stringent than the 2000 IECC. It is currently being evaluated by stakeholders across the state. The 2006 IECC, with ESL's amendment, may be adopted by the 80th Legislature as the state's uniform energy code. However, due to uncertainty regarding adoption of the 2006 IECC as the state standard, City staff now chooses to recommend adoption and amendment of the current energy code, the 2000 IECC / 2001 Supplement. The proposed local amendments are based on selected portions of the 2006 IECC. The local amendments were reviewed and evaluated by the Mechanical Board and Electrical Boards and received their approval. Development Services, in coordination with legal counsel, then forwarded a request to ESL to review and approve this local amendment. On October 31, 2006, ESL approved the proposed local amendment to be made in sub-

stantially the same form:

Proposed amendments  
504.1 General. This section covers the minimum efficiency of, and controls for, service water-heating equipment and insulation of service hot water piping.

Sec 504.7. Pools shall be provided with energy conserving measures in accordance with Section 504.7.1 through 504.7.3

504.7.1 Pool heaters. All pool heaters shall be equipped with a readily accessible on-off switch to allow shutting off the heater without adjusting the thermostat setting. Pool heaters fired by natural gas shall not have continuously burning pilot lights.

504.7.2 Time switches. Time switches that can automatically turn off and on heaters and pumps according to a preset schedule shall be installed on swimming pool heaters and pumps.

- Exceptions:
1. Where public health standards require 24-hour pump operation.
  2. Where pumps are required to operate solar-and waste-heat-recovery pool heating systems.

505.1 General (Mandatory). This section covers lighting system controls, the connection of ballasts, the maximum lighting power for interior applications, and minimum acceptable lighting equipment for exterior applications.

505.2.4 Exterior lighting controls

Lighting for all exterior applications shall have automatic controls capable of turning off exterior lighting when sufficient daylight is available or when the lighting is not required during night-time hours. Lighting not

designated for dusk-to-dawn operation shall be controlled by an astronomical time switch. Lighting designated for dusk-to-dawn operation shall be controlled by an astronomical time switch or photo-sensor. Astronomical time switches shall be capable of retaining programming and the time setting during loss of power for a period of at least 10 hours.

Exception: Lighting for covered vehicle entrances or exits from buildings or parking structures where required for safety, security, or eye adaptation.

505.4 - Exit signs. (Mandatory). Internally illuminated exit signs shall not exceed 5 watts per side.

**ISSUE:**  
Adoption of a more stringent commercial energy code.

**ALTERNATIVES:**  
This ordinance could be postponed or cancelled. Postponement or cancellation of this resolution would result in the current International Energy Code 2000 with 2001 local amendments to remain in effect.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**  
There is no direct fiscal impact as a result of this ordinance.

**RECOMMENDATION:**  
Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**  
File Description File Name Ordinance/Supplemental Documents 200701110069.pdf

**DEPARTMENT HEAD AUTHORIZATIONS:** Rose Ryan Director (Interim) Environmental Services

**APPROVED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:** Erik Walsh Assistant City Manager