

RSES SWRA Annual Conference Convenes in Austin

The 71st Annual RSES SWRA Educational Conference and Business Meeting took place March 17–19, 2022 in Round Rock, TX. The RSES Austin Chapter hosted this year's Conference and in addition to drawing in Members from all over Region 10. Guests included 2021–2022 RSES International President Raymond Clary, CMS; Past International President Mike Ralston, CM; and E&E Board Chairman Roger Hensley, CMS were also in attendance.

In addition to the traditional Business Meeting held for SWRA, the educational programs boasted such sessions as:

- “Selecting Alternative Refrigerants for R-22, R-134a and R-404A/R-507,” presented by Andy Schoen, CM, Managing Member of HVACR Advisors LLC (an HVACR consulting firm);
- “Residential Dehumidifier Sizing and Selection,” presented by Larry Brewer, CM, Technical Support Specialist, INSCO and the SWRA-RSES Educational Director;
- “Correct Sizing of Thermostat Wire” presented by Greg Parks, DTR, Rheem/Ruud Factory District Service Representative for Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma;
- “Evacuate the Refrigerant System Better and Quicker” and “Sizing and Selection of Residential Air Filters,” presented by Larry Brewer, CM; and
- A TDLR course on Gas Heating, Presented by Jim Malone, CMS of J&J HVAC LLC.

In addition to the great education sessions, the SWRA RSES Auxiliary was onsite to hold their annual Awards Luncheon. The officers were installed for the coming year. These individuals include: Michelle Poole, SWRA President, Kathryn Clark, SWRA Vice-President (not pictured); Brenda Decker,



Opening Ceremonies of the 71st Annual SWRA-RSES Educational Conference and Business Meeting in Round Rock, TX. Hosted by the Austin Chapter of RSES. Officiated by Conference Chairperson James Poole, CM.

Secretary, (not pictured); Pat McCarthy, Treasurer, Jill Malone, Sergeant at Arms/Historian. Past International Auxiliary President Sandy Ralston was on hand to swear them in.

A Past President's Breakfast was also held to honor those who have served as SWRA and International President and the currently serving International RSES today.

The SWRA Board of Directors were also installed at the Annual Banquet. Board Members taking office include: James Bowman, SWRA President; John Muntean, SWRA Vice President; James Poole, CMS, Sara Ortiz, Treasurer; Ronnie Lindig, Sergeant at Arms. The Board was sworn in by 2021–2022 RSES International President Raymond Clary, CMS.

Finally, during the closing banquet, James Poole, CM of the Austin Chapter received the SWRA-RSES Member of the Year award. This prestigious award is given to the Member of the Region in recognition of a Member's outstanding contributions to and through RSES Region 10 for the benefit of the HVACR industry the community or country in the areas of education, public relations, safety and society growth. 🌐



Presenters during their sessions at the Conference include (top to bottom): Andy Schoen, CM; Larry Brewer, CM; Greg Parks; and Jim Malone, CMS.



The SWRA Board of Directors: James Bowman, President; John Muntean, Vice President; James Poole, CMS, Secretary; Sara Ortiz, Treasurer (not pictured) Ronnie Lindig, Sergeant at Arms being sworn into office by 2021–2022 RSES International President Raymond Clary, CMS.



The SWRA Auxiliary Officers: Michelle Poole, President, Kathryn Clark, Vice-President (not pictured); Brenda Decker, Secretary (not pictured); Pat McCarthy, Treasurer, Jill Malone, Sergeant at Arms/Historian being sworn into office by Past International Auxiliary President Sandy Ralston.



James Poole, CM, receives the prestigious Regional Member of the Year award from Burt Wallace.




Past SWRA/International Presidents pose as The White Hat Club during a breakfast held in their honor. Seated left to right are: Larry Brewer, CM; Burt Wallace, CM; Wayne Young, CMS; Dick Burks, CM; Jim Malone, CMS; WD "Mac" McCarthy, CM; Standing left to right are: Ron Solomon; Rick Aguirre, CM; James Poole, CM; Jerry Clark, CM; Stanley Domel, CMS; Mike Ralston, CM (Past International President).

In Memory Of...

The Staff of *RSES Journal* and RSES offer their condolences to the friends and families of the following RSES Members who have passed since the last print issue of *RSES Journal* was published in December 2021:

- **Jack Rise, CMS** of Tampa, FL, Asbury Park Chapter.
- **Charles Dise, CMS** of Mechanicsville, VA, Virginia Chapter.

Our thoughts are with you and yours.

Please send all obituaries to general@rses.org. 

SWRA WHITE HAT TRADITION

As explained in *RSES News* in the June 2021 issue of *RSES Journal*, the history of the White Stetson is a tradition that has been a part of the SWRA for more than 50 years. The hats signify those who are currently serving the Region as Presi-



White Hats on Display: Traditional Stetsons, known as the "White Hats" on display at the SWRA Regional event.

dent or have served and are now a Past President. A hat is presented to an International President attending SWRA, as well. This honor also comes with a responsibility for the recipient to honor the tradition and never show up to an official meeting without their white hat. Those that forget their hat are fined \$50 as a penalty.

RSES International Secretary/Treasurer and Region 10 Director Jerry Clark, CM recalls the tradition through his lineage.

"For me and my family it became a tradition of service. My father Wade Clark, CM received his in 1983, I received mine in 2007, and my mother Linda Clark received hers in 2012. As a boy I recall many times trying to 'steal' the hats from those who had one to only find them saying I would have to 'earn it just like they did' through service to the SWRA. So many of the great people of our region and organization like Steve Stevens, Ralph Becker, Shelton Babineaux, CM; JR Dick Burks; Wayburn Wilson, CMS; Darwin Sharp, CM; Mac McCarthy, CM; Danny Carole; Jim Butcher, CM; Harrison Travis, CM; Wayne Young, CMS; and Greg McKendall have received this coveted token, and I've been honored to be among their ranks.

"I've been able to see so many of these people honored as they received their White Hat. It's why it is such an honor that I now get to honor those who serve with the presentations! Some time ago my dear friend Dick Burks said it was my turn to present the White Hats and to keep the traditions alive. It's with pride that I present them to honor each who serves and sacrifices their time for RSES and the SWRA."