

Highlights through the years....

The year of 1960 was a significant one for many reasons. The historical first televised presidential debates between Richard M. Nixon and John F. Kennedy took place. The Civil Rights Act was passed. The Winter Olympics was held in Squaw Valley, California while the Summer Olympics was in Rome, whose citizens founded the original games. In the whirlwind of change, both political and social that year, the Electrical League of Arizona began its roots, but oh how times have changed for the League! We welcome you to take a look at our history...

1960

December, 1964: The Arizona Electric Club merges with the Valley of the Sun Electric League.

October, 1966: Valley of the Sun Electric League hosts the 31st Annual Conference of the International Association of Electric Leagues.

May, 1967: Valley of the Sun Electric League, co-sponsored with the Arizona Republic newspaper to host the Arizona Beautiful Home Show where many League members promoted the benefits of residential air conditioning.

September, 1967: Electric League Education launches the Fundamentals of Salesmanship and Lighting for Industry programs in recognition of the need for more continuing education.



Jerry Brown, Manager Graybar Electric, rises to clarify a point to League President Jack Redmond as the rest of the Board of Directors listen intently. Action took place at the regular Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Board.
The Board meets four times a year to plan and oversee the fiscal operations of the organization and to establish overall policy in current and future activities.

1970

September, 1970: Jerry Colangelo, General Manager of the Phoenix Suns, speaks at the Valley of the Sun Electric League Monthly Luncheon.

1971: Valley of the Sun Electric League officially becomes known as The Electric League of Arizona.

September, 1972: The Electric League of Arizona launches the College of Comfort Conditioning, a comprehensive training program on heating, air conditioning, duct design, electricity, industry code and standards, and marketing.

June, 1973: The Electric League of Arizona announces the launch of its Department of Consumer Affairs to educate consumers, create a positive outlook on the Electrical Industry, and to provide exemplary customer service in the community.

January, 1974: The Electric League of Arizona launches a consumer awareness campaign in conjunction with the Arizona Registrar of Contractors to urge consumers only to work with reputable licensed and bonded contractors.

March, 1975: The Electric League of Arizona launches the Certified Electric Heat Pump Contractor Program in conjunction with APS and SRP to meet the heating and cooling needs of consumers.

June, 1975: The Southern Arizona Chapter of the League is launched in Tucson.

December, 1975: Dr. Robert M. Handy conducts an informative two part presentation on the value of Solar Energy at a well-attended League luncheon.

May, 1976: Jack Redmond, a League founder and its second President, passed away.



First ELA Director, Dick Ruecker, shows off the 1973 "Get in the Picture" Promo.

1980

March, 1980: The League reorganizes their internal structure to create a new Electrical division and a Solar division.

April, 1980: The League's Consumer Affairs Program is recognized with a Management Achievement Award by the American Society of Association Executives.

December, 1980: The League's first Executive Director and a founder, Dick Ruecker, retires after 22 years of service and is honored with a gala celebration.

May, 1985: The Arizona Heat Pump Council is formed with Jim Donley, President of Donley Service Center elected as Chairman. The Electric League of Arizona provides consumer education and incentives in conjunction with APS and SRP.

1988: The Arizona Energy Management Council is formed to increase the market of energy saving devices.

Current and Past League Presidents

- 1960-1962 Vaughan Pierce
- 1963-64 J. E. "Jack" Redmond, Sr.
- 1964-65 Harold V. Washburn
- 1965-66 Don Willis
- 1966 J. D. Brown
- 1967 John A. Ware, Jr.
- 1968 R. W. Alexander
- 1969 Don Parlett
- 1970 Roger J. Newton
- 1971-72 William B. Harper
- 1972-73 Henry B. Sargent
- 1973-74 Roger L. Steele
- 1974-75 Tracy R. Thomas
- 1975-1976 John F. Gohring
- 1976-77 James P. Grady
- 1977-78 Burton Faigen
- 1978-79 Bob Kohnen
- 1980 Tom Morron
- 1981 Jay Winslow
- 1982 Ed Marshall
- 1983 Lee Athmer
- 1983-1984 Lew Davis
- 1984-85 Harold Simmons
- 1985-87 A. V. "Raf" Raffo
- 1987-88 Doug Jones



R. W. Alexander



Vaughn Pierce

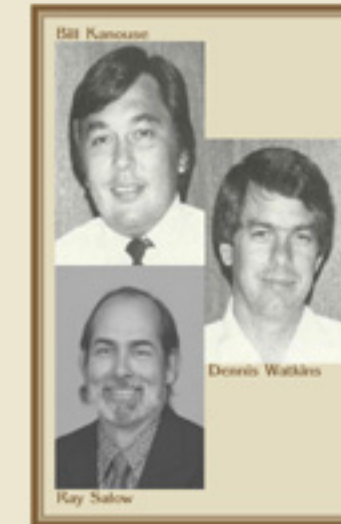


J. E. Redmond, Sr.



Harold Washburn

- 1988-89 Bill Kanouse
- 1990-91 Joe Bennett
- 1991-92 Jack M. White
- 1992-93 Robert A. Alcalá
- 1993-94 James F. Dee
- 1994 Jim Hinshaw
- 1995 Jim Koutoudis
- 1996-97 Frank Racy
- 1998-99 Mark Gaylor
- 2000-01 Marcy Kostewa
- 2002-03 Brad Morari
- 2004-05 Karl Wagner
- 2006-07 Ric Palozzi
- 2008-10 Ray Salow



Bill Kanouse, Dennis Watkins, Ray Salow

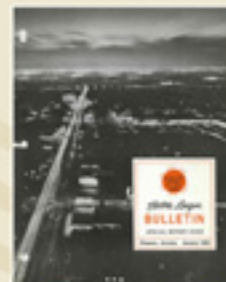
1963

John Ware elected new Chairman of the Valley of the Sun Electric League.



Bulletin cover from the January edition.

1964



1971

Valley of the Sun Electric League officially becomes known as The Electric League of Arizona.

League launches consumer awareness campaign along with Arizona Registrar of Contractors to protect consumers.

1974

1975

Southern Arizona Chapter of the League is launched in Tucson.

The Consumer Affairs Program recognized with a Management Achievement Award from the American Society of Association Executives

1980



Tom Morron and Ben Logan

1985

The Electric League of Arizona provides consumer education and incentives in conjunction with APS and SRP.

1990

1992: The Arizona Appliance Council was formed.

1992: The League launches its Electrical Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree program.

September, 1993: The H.I.P. Program, known as Handling Inquiries Promptly (for consumers) and Handling Inquiries Profitably (for contractors) launches, guaranteeing 15 minute contractor call backs and 20 minute customer service follow-ups with consumers.

October, 1993: The Fall Heat Pump Council Rally is a well-attended tradeshow where the first Arizona Heat Pump Council Master Technician patches are awarded.

December, 1993: Individuals can make inquires to the HVACR Today and Electric Times via email for the first time.

August, 1994: The Electric Times and HVACR Today celebrated their one year anniversary.

1998: The APS Qualified Contractor Program is launched in conjunction with the utility and the Arizona Heat Pump Council contractors.

1999: The Arizona Heat Pump Council presents the Best in Class Awards at the HVACR Conference and Expo.



Brad Morari and Jim Donley

2000

February, 2000: Marcy Kostewa of Markos, Inc. is elected the first female Electric League of Arizona President.

March, 2000: The League launches an online version of the Annual Buyer's Guide.

2001: The Arizona Evaporative Cooling Council was formed.

June, 2003: The Electric League of Arizona Institute of Facility Management Continuing Education launches the Facility Maintenance Technician certificate program then the Building Operators program.

July, 2003: The League launches its website, www.electricleagueofarizona.org.

March, 2004: The League members volunteer their services to the Evaporative Cooler Start-up in conjunction with the Foundation for Senior Living.

March, 2005: The Electric League of Arizona hosts the 20th Anniversary of the Annual Electrical Industry Softball Tournament.

December, 2005: The Electric League of Arizona relocates its office to central Phoenix where it currently resides.

March, 2006: Former Electric League of Arizona President and HVACR Today Columnist, Jim Hinshaw, visits New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina where he holds seminars to aid HVAC contractors and offers monetary assistance to victims.

August, 2006: The Electric League of Arizona launches the SRP Certified Contractor Program in conjunction with the utility to assist contractors and SRP customers.

2007: Electric League of Arizona offers its first Solar Photovoltaic Course.

2008: The Arizona Solar Council is formed.

2008: The Energy Management Council launches the SRP Shade Screen Promotion in conjunction with the utility for residential consumers.

2008: The League expands the SRP Certified Contractor Program to include commercial contractor.



2010

2010: The Electric League of Arizona launches the APS Qualified Solar Installer Program in conjunction with the utility offering education programs and customer support to new and current members of the Arizona Solar Council.



Lifetime Members Remember...

Frank Fredrickson was a Manufacturer's Representative for several companies including Klein Tools and Ideal Industries. He recalls that when he came to Phoenix 1958, there were only three Reps in Arizona.

His greatest memory was when he headed the Electric League of Arizona's division of Manufacturer's Representatives and was very actively involved.



ELA Man of the Year

He and his wife moved to Tucson about three years ago to live near his son who works for Graybar Electric, but he misses the nearly 50 years he spent in Phoenix stating that it grows on you.

Ray D. Mason worked for Tucson Unified School District for about 30 years as a Foreman.

When Joe Thompson was head of the League in Tucson, Ray attended many luncheons, meetings, and events. His fondest memory of his involvement with the League though was putting up the solar lights in the town square of Presidio San Agustín Park for the holidays. "We planted a tree there, but it's too big to decorate now," he recalls.

Ray now belongs to the National Electric Code Committee in Tucson.

Hans Rosenthal was very active in the League during the 1980's and early 90's where he participated in committees under the Lighting division. He also was an Electric League of Arizona instructor and worked for Norman Brim Co.

His fondest memory of the League was the camaraderie at the time and the activities they hosted such as golf outings, annual banquets, regular meetings, and other events.

Hans is currently a Consultant with R C. Lurie Co.

Lifetime Member James Vitus Shares His Memories of the League

James Vitus was a key player in the electrical and lighting industries in Arizona for 32 years. He first arrived in 1958 and worked from the Tucson area where he served as a Manufacturers Agent and Representative for Columbia Lighting based in Spokane, Washington at that time.

In about 1968, he went independent under his own business, C. James Vitus Co., representing various industrial heating and lighting companies. He helped produce light for hospitals and office buildings.

Vitus remarks of others in the industry at the time such as John Allen Ware, Norm Ross, and W.C. Osborn, "We were competitors but good friends."

Vitus' involvement with the Electrical League of Arizona (ELA) formerly the Valley of the Sun Electric League began early. About the ELA Vitus says they "tried to set up an organization that would educate people about lighting."

They also created an integrated network with Arizona Public Service (APS), Salt River Project (SRP), engineers, architects, electrical contractors and distributors via tradeshow and other social events. ELA social activities were held at places including Hotel Westward Ho, Mountain Shadows Resort, Scottsdale Country Club, Phoenix Country Club, and Beekeepers Restaurant. Monthly meetings were also held in conjunction with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES).

Vitus is now retired from his work in the electrical industry and has relocated to the Northwest where he is originally from. He raises trees for timber, but he still follows changes in the electrical industry citing that LED lighting is the most impressive recent development. He remarks jovially "I like keeping up with the people down there."



ES Officers: Fred Mock, Bud Mason, and Jim Vitus



1991

The Arizona Electric Council and Arizona Lighting Council began.

The Arizona Roofing Council and the Arizona Plumbing Council were formed.

1995



1997

The ELA Councils Division expands to include the APS Energy Answer Line.

First female Electric League of Arizona President elected.

2000

2001

The Arizona Evaporative Cooling Council was formed.



Launches the SRP Certified Contractor Program in conjunction with the utility to assist contractors and SRP customers.

2006



Did you know....



Electricity and Energy Timeline:

<http://www.fwee.org/timeline.html>

1646: Walter Charlton coins the word electricity

1752: Benjamin Franklin flies a kite during a thunderstorm with a key dangling on the end of a wire. This experiment leads to his invention of the lightning rod.

1794: Alessandro Volta creates the first continuous electrical current by making a battery out of silver and zinc strips placed in salty water.

1844: Samuel F. B. Morse builds the first electric telegraph. The Morse code makes it possible to send messages long distances at the speed of light.

1876: Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone by converting electrical impulses into sound.

1879: Thomas Alva Edison invents the light bulb and creates artificial light for a new generation. Edison, over the next 50 years, creates more than 1,000 inventions related to electricity and its uses. These include the phonograph, ticker tape machine, and the motion picture camera and projector. Edison is considered the father of electricity as we know it.



HVAC Timeline:

<http://www.greatachievements.org/?id=3854>

1902: First office building with an air-conditioning system installed.

1914: Aircooled, electric, self-contained household refrigerating unit is marketed.

1929: First room cooler goes on the market.

1939: Air conditioning offered as an option in a Packard automobile.

1947: Mass-produced, low-cost window air conditioners become possible.

1969: More than half of new automobiles are equipped with air conditioning.

The Year it all Began!

Events of 1960:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1960>

- The 1960 Winter Olympics open in Squaw Valley, California.
- Elvis Presley returns home from Germany, after being away on duty for 2 years.
- The United States launches the first weather satellite, TIROS-1.
- At the 32nd Academy Awards ceremony, Ben-Hur wins a record number of Oscars, including Best Picture.
- President Dwight Eisenhower signs the Civil Rights Act of 1960 into law.
- The 50-star flag of the United States debuts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- The 1960 Summer Olympics open in Rome.
- The 2 leading U.S. presidential candidates, Richard M. Nixon and John F. Kennedy, participate in the first televised presidential debate.
- In a close race, John F. Kennedy is elected over Richard M. Nixon, becoming (at 43) the youngest man elected President.

