

# ASSE – THE STORY

Established: 1906

## The Formation of a Society

William C. Groeniger of Columbus, Ohio said, “Sanitary plumbing is of more real value than medicine. Plumbing provides means for keeping the body, wearing apparel, the house, our streets and alleys clean. Cleanliness means healthfulness. A plumbing system stands for cleanliness, which also means that the plumbing system prevents where medicine cures, and prevention is more desirable than the cure. To protect the public from insanitary plumbing and the influence of harmful surroundings caused by reckless competition, the use of cheap and defective material and improper installation, sanitary regulations are provided, regulating the location, construction, installation and inspection of plumbing.”

The American Society of Sanitary Engineering for Plumbing and Sanitary Research owes its beginning to Mr. Henry B. Davis, Chief Plumbing Inspector for the District of Columbia. Mr. Davis believed it was vital that plumbing practices in the United States be standardized to protect the nation’s health and welfare.

In response to his invitation, on January 29, 1906, Henry B. Davis met at the New Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C. with twenty-nine men from across the United States, twenty-five being plumbing inspectors. He told them “You are here for the purpose of forming an association of inspectors of plumbing and sanitary engineers, to be the source from which rules and regulations could be developed for the advancement of sanitary science, in the interest of public health.” He also told them that they would be in a position to bring about a more uniform practice in the design and installation of plumbing systems and more uniform selections of material for piping, fittings, valves, etc.

You are here for the purpose of forming an association of inspectors of plumbing and sanitary engineers, to be the source from which rules and regulations could be developed for the advancement of sanitary science, in the interest of public health.

Those in attendance at the meeting were:

Henry B. Davis of Washington, D.C.  
William H. DeWar of New York, NY  
Edward Quinn of St. Louis, MO  
William F. McFarland of Washington D.C.  
James S. Cassady of Woburn, MA  
Frank Demond of Rochester, NY  
Col. John Biddle of Washington, D.C.  
Charles B. Ball of Chicago, IL  
Garrett W. Cotter of New York, NY  
W. M. Weatherly of Greensboro, NC  
George W. Butler of Erie, PA  
Isaac R. Carver of Pittsburgh, PA  
M. J. Couroy of St. Paul, MN  
J. F. Fox of Nashville, TN  
Frank W. O’Neill of Joliet, IL  
George W. Feaster of Trenton, NJ  
W. H. Mitchell of Baltimore, MD  
Edward F. Kane of Wilmington, DE  
H. J. Luff of Cleveland, OH  
Thomas N. Thomson of Scranton, PA  
Clifford R. Bradbury of Washington, D.C.

Walter Wyman of Washington, D.C.  
Jas. Berrell of Washington D.C.  
E. J. Van Curran of Rochester, NY  
Thomas H. Copson of Rochester, NY  
Frank K. Chew of New York, NY  
J. F. Brady of Washington D.C.  
E. J. Rice of Rochester, NY  
Richard D. Micon of Washington, D.C.  
Joseph Graham of New York, NY

The first officers elected were President Henry B. Davis, First Vice-President Edward Quin, Second Vice-President William. H. Dewar, Third Vice-President Martin J. Conroy, MN, Fourth Vice-President Isaac B. Carver, Secretary James S. Cassady and Treasurer Frank W. O’Neill.

Their purpose was to organize an association of plumbing inspectors and sanitary engineers for the express purpose of protecting the potable water supplies and, as such, the nation’s population. The association was named “The American Society of Inspectors of Plumbing and Sanitary Engineers”. The Constitution that was adopted at this first meeting, in form and essential features, is still in effect today.

On motion of Mr. Kane, it was decided that the meetings of the Society would be held annually on the second Tuesday of January.

It was later specified in the Constitution that the guide of our Society shall be the *Robert’s Rules of Order*.

One of the first goals of the Society was to “formulate regulations for a consistent and uniform modern sanitary advancement of plumbing.” To this end, ASSE initiated the need for a national plumbing code representing all aspects of plumbing in all geographical locations of the United States, Canada and other nations represented by the membership (i.e., Cuba). In 1909, a three-man committee was appointed to work with the National Association of Masters Plumbers and the National Association of Journeymen to develop “The National Plumbing Code.” Years later, William C. Groeniger, Chairman of the Code Committee, would say “The pioneers who organized this Society forty years ago knew from experience that to have good plumbing, there must be rules to provide efficient and economical plumbing systems. Therefore, we repeat with emphasis, above all else, the principal object and very definite purpose of the American Society of Engineering is the formulation of plumbing regulations, which the American people can accept in confidence.”

The goal of the Society was to inform the public through research committees, by circulating reports and by free discussion at general meetings of its members. The Society began publishing and distributing annual *Yearbooks* that were meant to cover the entire range of Society and chapter activities and contain the history of our plumbing industry in its scientific, technical and research aspects.

Membership in the Society grew to 91 in 1907. President Davis said “It is my hope to see chapters of this Society formed in all the states, Cuba and Canada, which will be ruled by local officers under the direction of and guided by the Constitution and By-Laws and Board of Directors of this Society”. “The members of these chapters will be expected to carry forward the standards, principles and objects for which we are working, and we in turn will assist and help promote all legitimate objects of the chapters, whose members will work with us and send delegates to the annual conventions.”

There are three types of membership: One is the Active, whereby men are actively engaged in the design, installation, or operation of sewage and water systems, or men who are teaching sanitary science, or men who have an actual knowledge of plumbing and sanitation. Associate members are those men that are in the industry but are not actively engaged in the installation, design, or operation of plumbing. If they can prove to the chapter that they are associated with us for at least two years, and are contributing something to the welfare of mankind and the advancement of plumbing science, they may gain application through their chapter for active membership. Sustaining membership is for contributing organizations or societies that are interested enough in the work that ASSE is doing to try and help us publish the *Yearbook* and in other expenses that are to be incurred.

In 1910, the Constitution was amended so plumbing inspectors no longer in office would retain their membership. It was also decided that the officers of the Society should be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

The first committees formed were: Board of Governors, Testing, Legislative, Publication and Button Committee. By 1908, the Insignia, Membership and Reception Committees were added. In 1909 the Testing Committee was expanded to Test and Standard Regulation Committee.

A paper written by T. N. Thomson of Pennsylvania, and printed in the 1908 Yearbook, describes the importance of a safe sterile water supply, especially in hospitals.

The Society affirmed at the 1911 convention that they believed the water seal in traps of all kinds should be protected from loss by means of proper and individual vents for such traps. They went on record favoring individual trap vents instead of the antisiphon trap.

A proposal was made to create a Bureau of Inspection for Soil Pipe and Fittings which would be self-supporting and without expense to the Society. The bureau would inspect foundries to make sure cast iron soil pipes and fittings were the correct size, correct material, tested and inspected properly, and marked and labeled accordingly. The standard specifications for cast iron soil pipe and fittings have become the national standard adopted by soil pipe manufacturers.

Also that year, John Fowler of Jacksonville, FL, made a motion that the Constitution and By-Laws be printed in pamphlet form and a copy sent to each member.

A resolution was passed to adopt a revised public comfort station mark during the 1912 Convention. The original mark had to be redesigned because the red cross in the center was in violation of a law in the interests of the Red Cross Society. The red cross was replaced by a four-pointed orange colored star in a 5 inch green circle which was submitted by Frank K. Chew from New York.

First Vice President Dr. Hamilton K. Beatty strongly urged members to use their influence to support the removal of the privy vault for other means of sewage disposal because it contaminates well water, spring water and reservoir supply and attracts flies which carry disease. A committee was formed to gather data and statistics pertaining to privy vaults from different cities throughout the country. A resolution was adopted whereby the Society condemned the use of latrines.

In 1913, a design for a button as a symbol of the Society was discussed.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommended that the yearly certificates of membership be replaced by a certificate of membership, properly engraved, and a membership card, which would indicate would the degree of membership, to be issued upon the election of a member.

Harry De Joannis from Illinois, suggested that in order to keep up with modern times and the profession, the name American Society of Inspectors of Plumbing and Sanitary Engineers be changed to The American Society of Sanitary Engineering, and it was unanimously agreed upon to change the name at the 1914 convention.

The formation of state chapters of the Society was first proposed by A. J. McGookin of Newark, NJ at the 1915 convention and denied, as the Constitution did not cover chapters. It was proposed again in 1916 by L.

J. Devine and the Constitution was to be amended to permit chapters. The President was authorized to employ counsel to draw up rules and regulations to govern chapters. These rules and regulations were later presented to the Society at the Annual Meeting when Illinois and Texas wanted to form a state chapter.

By 1916, the ASSE Research Committee had been formed and their purpose was defined. This committee, still in existence today, was assigned the task of promoting investigation and phenomena, operations or results of experiments as related to the plumbing and sanitary industries. The committee worked diligently to expose every type and kind of cross connection. Through the work of this committee, such epidemics as polio and typhoid fever were proven to be associated with potable water systems. ASSE contended that polio, along with several other diseases, could be spread from one location to another through contaminated potable water, often caused by faulty plumbing practices, such as cross-connections that led to back-siphonage. Eventually, the Society produced a magazine dealing with cross connections and it was widely distributed.

Also under discussion at the 1916 Annual Meeting was the possibility of having a Society publication printed at regular intervals and having advertisements to make it self sustaining.

Our letterhead and the emblem of the Society was designed by W. C. Groeniger and approved by the Board at the 1917 Annual Meeting. The design was a two-color lithograph with the letters ASSE across an outline of North and South America with the Western Hemisphere on a globe supporting the motto "Prevention Rather Than Cure" and "The American Society of Sanitary Engineering" on top.

## The Society's Growing Years

One of the Society's most difficult tasks during the 1916-1926 period was to change and correct public thinking and educate people to recognize the health and economic values of plumbing. William Groeniger said when he recapped these years "During the 1916-1926 period, we were pretty generally laughed at, with many people telling us we could never win, because we were weak, too small, and other less complimentary reasons. It is quite true that we were small in numbers, weak in finance, but we were strong in faith, in principle, in ourselves, in our purposes and in plumbing for its true values. We had members dedicated to do what some claimed to be impossible. We loved plumbing, because of what it contributed to the health, comfort, convenience, economy and higher living standards, which it brought to the American people." A recap of these years showed that the first plumbing regulations adopted and enforced in America did not include the water supply distributing systems of plumbing systems but rather with the removal of human and household wastes from buildings. Public health and water officials believed that water treated to make it safe at the treatment plant would reach the faucet nozzle in the same degree of safety as when it was pumped into the water mains. Our Society proved that this theory was false in that the water could and did become contaminated and infected between the house service pipe and the faucet nozzle. Our Society may claim full credit for publicly disclosing the existence of millions of hidden health hazards in plumbing and piping systems caused by cross-connections. Also, through intensive research, laboratory and job tests, the shocking conditions of plumbing systems in hospitals and hotels, which existed and were ignored, were finally exposed by our Society.

At the 1920 Annual Meeting, the Society recommended legislation providing for the licensing of plumbers by either state or municipality and that all such legislation be state-wide, and plumbers engaged in the business need not take an examination to be issued a license. Sixty days after the passage of such laws, no applicant will be issued a license without first passing an examination.

The Society asked Herbert Hoover, then Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, to initiate studies on a National Plumbing Code. The code that resulted helped standardize plumbing practices.

In 1921, the Society took an active part in the formation of the Subcommittee on Plumbing. In 1928, the Society together with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, joined in sponsoring Committee A-40, American Standards Association, which is part of Subcommittee No. 1. With their efforts, a new standard was adopted in 1935 for Cast Iron Soil Pipe Fittings, ASA-A40.1-1935.

The Research Committee informed the members at the 1927 Annual Meeting of the possibility of plumbing fixture connections creating cross-connections whereby the waste in water closets, bidets, bathtubs and other fixtures could be returned to the water supply distributing system either by gravity or siphonage.

The Society became affiliated with the American Standards Association in 1931 and helped create some of their standards concerning soil pipe and fitting - pipe thread - gasoline and oil separator - trap and many similar subjects. The Society terminated its membership with American Standards Association in 1940.

A pamphlet was printed and distributed in 1931 which outlined the history of the Society, accomplishments, goals and also membership requirements.

In 1931, *ASSE Topics*, the Society's new publication, was established and mailed quarterly. Postage was \$.04 each issue and cost about \$32.00 to print and mail to the membership. After a few years, the Board voted to discontinue *Topics* because of the expense. It was revised under the name *ASSE News-letter* and the consensus was that the publication was an excellent method of generating interest in the Society and its activities other than direct personal contact even though only two had been mailed out in 1942. The Board recommended that the *ASSE News-letter* be mailed four times a year. By 1946, the newsletter was being mailed monthly. Many editors of trade papers wanted to be put on the mailing list for our newsletter and at times, we received requests for permission to reprint newsletter articles.

The Board passed a resolution in 1932 to print the *Yearbook* annually instead of biennially, and in addition to having technical papers printed in the *Yearbook*, have the technical papers reprinted and sold at minimum cost because it took almost two years before a printing of the *Yearbook* was completed and mailed to membership.

An important step toward standardization was realized when the National Association of Master Plumbers approved a detailed plumbing code recommended by its Standardization Committee in 1933. The code included the standardization of plumbing equipment including materials, uniformity of roughing-in dimensions, efficiency of operation, and other performance specifications.

On November 8, 1937, the American Society of Sanitary Engineering became incorporated in the District of Columbia.

At the Annual Meeting in 1938, Honorary Life membership was added to the By-Laws. At this time, membership dues for Active members was \$10.00, Associate members \$5.00 and there was no admission fee for Sustaining or Honorary members. Twenty percent of the sustaining membership yearly dues go back to the chapter to help pay the cost of the chapter expenses. For example, if you have a sustaining membership that pays \$50.00 for dues a year, the chapter would get 20% of that for chapter operation.

It was decided that the Board of Directors would have a meeting twice a year and have expenses paid for representatives to attend meetings of organizations with similar aims.

## **The Society and the Effects of World War II**

By 1941, forming Society Chapters was again being discussed. Formation of chapters under consideration were in Texas, Florida, Ohio, Illinois and Washington, D.C. The Board decided that before any chapter could be formed, a set of rules and regulations would have to be formulated. At this time, the Society had 6 Honorary members, 322 Active members, 13 Associate members and 25 Sustaining members.

President Schaller announced at the 1942 Annual Meeting that the Illinois Chapter and Florida Chapter are in full operation. The Ohio Chapter was the next chapter to form. Included in his Annual Report, President Schaller said "Chapters, moreover, will prove to be a great recruiting field in bringing to the attention of the parent body, men of action inspired by a desire of service - men supported by a broad knowledge of our many industry factors who through individual chapter activities and work can be drafted for key spots of responsibility and service in the official circle of our Society. Chapters keep alive Society interest and are an important factor in building Society membership."

Chapters would use the Society stationery. The Board decided that the Chapter By-Laws and Constitution should be printed in the *Yearbook*.

The war created a state of emergency in the United States with the shortage of plumbing materials which forced the setting aside of many plumbing codes and regulations that had provided full protection against insanitary conditions. Because the armed services were taking so many of the Society members, a resolution was passed to waive payment of membership dues for such members as may enter the armed services as long as they serve for the duration of the present conflict.

The Board also authorized \$740.00 for the purchase of the Society's first War Bond, a 12 year, Series F \$1,000.00 War Bond which was issued in the name of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering and would mature in 1955.

Because of the increasing demands on the Society, a resolution was passed in 1943 that a paid Executive Secretary be employed as funds permit. In 1946, President H. L. Schaller recommended employing a full time paid Society Business Manager or Executive Secretary to function under the direction of the Society President and the Board of Directors. Acting Secretary Tom Dugan of McKeesport, PA, became the Executive Secretary on a trial basis from June 1, 1946 to January 1, 1947. He also held the office of Treasurer and Librarian. The Board voted to employ Tom Dugan as Executive Secretary at a salary of \$275.00 a month.

The Board recommended that a percentage of all Society revenue be set aside for the purpose of establishing Society headquarters.

In 1943, the Society's Quarter Century Club was formed and chaired by George J. Dehn of Chicago, IL. Anyone could become a member of the Quarter Century Club providing that they have been an active member of the Society for 25 consecutive years. They could act as an advisory committee to encourage all members to become permanent members; to promote "Prevention Rather Than Cure"; to protect health, life and property; to advocate sanitary laws and have same adopted that will be legal and valid; that will protect the authorized official in office when violations of the law are reported and can be prosecuted to the letter of the law. Some of the first members were: H. B. Davis of Washington D.C., Thomas J. Claffy of Chicago, IL, Jas. R. Walker of Waterbury, CT, Archie Maddock of Trenton, NJ, Edward L. Penfrase of New York, NY, George J. Dehn of Chicago, IL, Stephen H. Gilmore of St. Louis, MO, William C. Groeniger of Columbus, OH, Louis A. Cornelius of Grand Rapids, MI, William H. Hobro of San Francisco, CA., Joseph J. Crotty of New York, NY and Mervin L. Ferris of Battle Creek, MI.

The first six chapters, Illinois, Florida, Ohio, Texas, Massachusetts and Missouri, had a combined membership of 299 which exceeded the total membership of the Society before the first chapter was formed.

By 1945, our Society had a membership of almost 700, an increase of 300% over a five year period. The goal was to have 1,000 members as a minimum and hopefully grow to 10,000 members.

Our Annual Meeting was cancelled in 1945 and our *Yearbook* was not published that year because the United States Office of Defense Transportation placed a ban on all non-essential travel and on all conventions. All types of transportation were badly needed for war transportation, auto tires and gasoline were being rationed and no hotels were available for conventions in Louisville, KY where our convention was to take place that year.

It had been the custom for the Society to ban the display of commercial products at conventions, but President Schaller recommended lifting the ban as it would be a good opportunity to examine and inspect new type appurtenances, fixtures and appliances relating to public health and safety.

At the 1946 Annual Meeting, W. J. Gallagher, Chairman of the Examinations and Educational Standards Committee, reported that there was a need to set up a Society endorsed examination and educational standards program for plumbers, gas fitters and drain layers. He felt that the inspectors badly needed a yearly refresher course sponsored by the Society on the mechanics of plumbing, public health and safety, with a curriculum on related chemistry, bacteriology, hydraulics, hydrostatics, office procedure and the legal aspect of plumbing related law.

The first electrical course was completed in June of 1945 and an advance course expected to cover laboratory work was planned for January, 1946.

Herb Schaller asked Carl Bash, of Cleveland, OH, to put together a Refresher Course for the 1947 Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. Everyone thought that if they held a special course for inspectors prior to the Annual Meeting, it would benefit not only the inspectors but also the general public. He did a wonderful job and was asked to handle the Refresher Course the following year. It was decided that the papers be published in our *News-letter* instead of the *Yearbook* so the members could read them sooner. In 1993 they approved a change in name from ASSE Refresher Course to the E. J. Zimmer Seminar.

The 1946 By-Laws were changed to increase the Board of Directors to 10 members. The membership dues were raised to \$12.00 per year and a refund of \$5.00 per member was to be paid to chapters. Sustaining dues went from \$100.00 to \$200.00. Currently, Sustaining dues are only \$255.00.

Between August 1 of 1946 and August 1 of 1947, 6 new chapters were formed; Alabama with 47 members, Kentucky with 14 members, Eastern Pennsylvania with 90 members, Wisconsin with 40 members, Arizona with 35 members and Western Pennsylvania with 24 members. The total membership with chapter affiliation was 1,079 and the total Society membership was 1,325. There were 27 sustaining members at that time.

Our Society, along with the National Bureau of Standards, helped established a standard for vitreous china plumbing fixtures, Commercial Standard CS20-47 (Fourth Edition), which covered standard nomenclature and definitions, general requirements and tests, grading rules, dimensional standards for roughing in and other overall and major dimensions, and recommended methods of marking and labeling the finished vitreous chinaware.

During the 1946 Annual Meeting, a gun donated by William Sebera was raffled off and the \$315.00 was applied toward our Society's Polio Research Program. Mr. Readey of the Illinois Chapter won the pistol, had his name inscribed on it and returned it to be raffled at the next Annual Meeting. The next raffle took in \$430.25 and was won by a young lady who assured ASSE that it would be returned for the next meeting so that it could be raffled off for the same purpose. The gun raffle was in effect for many years. It netted \$537.00 in 1957.

ASSE research proved that polio is a water-borne disease transmitted to humans through contaminated waters. Some questioned why India, having the poorest sanitation, has no polio. Dr. Salk proved that through immunization, the antibodies to fight the virus were created in the body of children who were exposed at an early age to the contaminated waters, and became immune just as we would when we are vaccinated.

In 1947, because of the increased cost of printing and mailing of the *Yearbook* to members along with the extra burden of the Executive Secretary's salary and office expenses, President John K. Dorsay recommended increasing membership dues to \$15.00 per year with \$5.00 per member being sent to chapters and keeping in mind that applications for membership received after October 1st will be considered dues for the following

year. Also, the Society was to begin publishing an annual souvenir program with added revenue derived from a patrons' list. A refund of 20% was to be given to chapters for new sustaining members. Until now, the chapters did not receive any money for sustaining memberships.

The 1947 Annual Meeting also brought discussion of the importance of ASSE to establish a National Testing Plumbing Laboratory. The Board approved that a board of three be appointed for the immediate establishment of the ASSE Mechanical and Bacteriological Testing Laboratory.

The ASSE Ladies Auxiliary was chartered on August 22, 1947. By 1954, the Ladies Auxiliary had a total of 222 members and was established in eight chapters: Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Texas, Florida and Western Missouri. They initiated a Scholarship Program in 1985 and between 1985 and 2004, the Auxiliary awarded scholarships totaling \$113,000.00.

By 1948, besides the membership in the United States, ASSE had 15 members in Canada, 3 in England, one in Palestine, one in India and one in the Canal Zone.

A recommendation at the 1948 Annual Meeting that when there is more than one chapter within a state, the original chapter would be the parent chapter. The chapters have proved to be a great asset to the Society because nationally we only have an Annual Meeting and it is difficult to maintain a high degree of interest. Chapters provided that interest through their many meetings. Also, our technical research could not be maintained without the stimulation and contribution to the workload by the chapters. Another recommendation was that a committee be appointed to propose nominations for an annual merit award to a member and a non-member who have contributed the most toward the advancement of sanitation in accord with the ideals of the Society. This award would be called the Henry B. Davis Award after the founder and first president of our Society. The first recipient of the member award was Herbert L. Schaller from Florida in 1949. The first non-member award was given to the Ladies Auxiliary in 1950.

During the past few years, American Standards Association, Building Officials Conference of America, Western Plumbing Officials Association, American Society of Sanitary Engineering and the Uniform Plumbing Code Committee sponsored by the federal government tried to write a uniform plumbing code. The federal government initiated the formation of a Coordinating Committee of a National Plumbing Code in which ASSE was invited to participate. The Department of Commerce was invited to use the facilities of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering testing laboratory.

It was decided at the 1948 Annual Meeting to add a complete membership roster to the *Yearbook* thus eliminating the cost of producing a separate roster. Also added was an advertising section in order to reduce the Society's cost of the *Yearbook*.

By August of 1949, our Society had 19 chapters, and membership had grown to more than 2000 active members and 38 sustaining members.

Changes were made to the format of the *ASSE News-letter* from two columns to three columns and the type was changed to make reading easier and more attractive.

Millard Caldwell, Civil Defense Director in Washington, asked the Society to participate in a meeting for the purpose of considering and reviewing the difficulties and the ramifications of civil defense. It was thought that if Russia attempted to deliver 100 atom bombs to the US, probably 70 would get through, so he urged each organization to appoint a Civil Defense Committee. Harold Duffy of Chicago became chairman of this committee.

A need to formalize the Committee On Trailer Parks and Trailer Coaches became apparent. The type of fixtures that are utilized in a trailer coach are different than ordinary plumbing fixtures that are used on a regular system because of the rate of flow, the size of the fixture and the fact that they are transported over roads. There were about a million people living in trailer parks and most trailers were only provided with pieces of

hose that were hanging from the bottom of the trailer. There was one piece of hose for the lavatory, another one for a water closet and another one for the shower. The trailer park operator was likely to just throw the hoses all over the ground and in many cases the hoses for waste would be reconnected to the water supply.

## The Beginning of a New Era

The year 1950 marked the beginning of a new era for ASSE. The membership present at the 1950 Annual Meeting approved a resolution that "every member of the Society supports our Laboratory Trustees in their endeavor to coordinate testing procedures and to correct the confused conditions now prevalent, relative to the acceptance or rejection of industry products by inspectional jurisdictions." A recommendation submitted with this resolution states that "enabling code provisions to be adopted by political subdivisions in order that ASSE standards may be accepted as nationally recognized standards, and that the presence of the ASSE Seal on any product be indicative of that product's compliance, and that products bearing a seal be accepted."

Mr. John Dorsey, President of the Laboratory Trustees Board, stated, "We are well aware of the fact that many fixtures and appurtenances (are tested) in laboratories and factories from the manufacturers standpoint and frequently, such a fixture, while meeting all testing requirements in the factory or the factory testing laboratory, react entirely different under field conditions. So the first and most important thing was to set up some type of specification."

In 1951, it was suggested that the Annual Meeting Committee consider two years ahead for meeting places as it takes a lot of time, work and money to host an Annual Meeting. It was also suggested the name American Society of Sanitary Engineers be changed to American Society of Sanitary Engineering and Plumbing Science. The purpose for this change would be to fully describe the aims and purposes of our Society from the sanitary plumbing level. The suggestion was not acted upon.

It was calculated that the average cost per member was \$15.80 and membership dues were \$15.00, so it was recommended that each chapter furnish bonds for their own officers and the *Yearbook* and *Newsletter* be sent only to paid up members thus saving about \$2,315.00. It was also recommended that the chapters that were not functioning as such be dropped as a chapter and the chapter refunds that would normally be given to the chapters would stay with National.

By 1952, our Society had 1804 members belonging to 23 chapters; Alabama, Arizona with 2 chapters, British Columbia, California, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Metropolitan Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania, Western Pennsylvania, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

The Board directed Secretary Walter Dunn and Treasurer Mike Mercury to set aside two complete sets of *Yearbooks* to be placed in a fire-proof vault and discontinue sending a complete set of *Yearbooks* to new chapters.

A resolution was passed in 1952 that a subtitle shall be added to the Society's name "For Plumbing and Sanitary Research".

L. Glenn Shields said, "Sanitary engineering does include plumbing. The founders and promoters of this Society realized that plumbing was a phase of sanitary engineering that had been ignored by our universities and colleges, neglected by architects and engineers, scorned and abused by builders and general contractors, and accepted reluctantly by departments of health, public works and buildings".

In 1953, The Hospital Plumbing Standards Committee was formed and among their duties was to examine medical care institutional plans for alterations, additions, conversions, and new structures.

The ASSE Technical Standards and Testing Procedures Committee was also formed. By the 1954 Annual Meeting, subcommittees had been formed and work began to develop operating specifications and laboratory

test procedures for the following devices: Vacuum Breakers, Urinal and Toilet Tank Ballcocks, Dishwashing Machines, and Food Waste Grinders. A subcommittee was formed for Industrial and Commercial Wastes; and the Hospital Plumbing Standards Committee was made a subcommittee of the group.

The Board decided to inactivate our National Plumbing Testing Laboratory due to the lack of money available to properly finance that operation. It created a lot of attention from the industry and brought into focus the importance of finding a way to keep the laboratory operational.

The Board passed a resolution that the Board of Directors must consist of at least one representative from the northeast, middle north and Canada, middle south and southwest sections of the U.S., and when chapters form in the northwest, that section shall have representation. These Regional Board members will visit each chapter in his jurisdiction at least once a year.

President Bash appointed a committee to follow through on his work to sponsor "National Plumbing Week" and select a date in 1955.

The Board authorized printing 2,500 copies of William C. Groeniger's *Manual of Procedure* and recommended that it be included in the 1955 *Yearbook*.

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter President Fields asked the National Board of Directors to have all billing for their chapter dues sent in bulk to their chapter for mailing. The Board agreed and also directed Secretary Walter Dunn to send billings in bulk to all chapter officers, wherever it was practical.

The Board recommended that ASSE explore the possibility of acquiring a voting membership in American Standards Association.

Our By-Laws provided no committee to administer the chapter affairs, therefore, it was recommended that the By-Laws be amended to provide a committee to be known as the Chapter Advisory Committee. It shall be composed of a chairman, with the title of Dean of Chapters and six members. President Shaller shall appoint the chairman and the members shall consist of the President, 1st Vice President, Immediate Past President, Treasurer, 5 year Member of the Board and 4 year Member of the Board.

Proper membership cards were to be acquired and sent to Quarter Century members.

Also approved and directed was that Life Memberships may be had in the Society at \$100.00 by active or associate members that are worthy and qualified, if and when approved by their local chapters and verified by the Board of Directors.

During the year, much time was spent analyzing and reading the synopses of films that might be of interest to this Society so that we could initiate a film library. Thousands of such films are now on the shelves of hundreds of organizations throughout this country. In 1956, a resolution was passed authorizing Secretary Sanford Schwartz to procure a film library and appropriate \$250.00 to purchase the films. It was reported that suitable and desirable films could be obtained for \$1.00 to \$10.00 per film. Later investigation showed that the \$250.00 was not enough money to secure the desired films. A list of films was to be put in the *ASSE News-letter* and *Yearbook*.

A Speakers Bureau was established and a questionnaire form was written whereby the nature of each speaker could be classified.

An Endowment Fund Committee was recommended and approved by the Board with one member represented from the Woman's Auxiliary.

The 1955 *Yearbook* had a total of 625 pages- the largest in our history- and contained a complete report of the Annual Meeting, an advertising section, a complete reprint of our By-Laws, a reprint of the *Manual of Procedure* by Wm. C. Groeniger and a section of vital statistics.

The Hospital Plumbing Standards Committee, which was formed in 1952, submitted their hospital plumbing standards at the 1955 Annual Meeting and they have been in effect for two years in the City of Detroit. By 1957, the committee had examined well over 100 medical care insti-

tutional plans for alterations, additions, conversions, and new structures. Most manufacturers would be willing to design their products to meet the requirements of all plumbing inspectional agencies, if such requirements were uniform. Our Technical Standards Committee had made progressive strides, but the manufacturer and designer still had the problem of meeting the requirements of various agencies.

## Starting the Next 50 Years

A permanent headquarters for our Society with a full-time secretary was discussed by President Wendell Dillon at the 1956 Annual Meeting. Currently, we have two locations that are considered headquarters. Records are kept in both places and some of our assets are in both places. A Reconstruction Planning Committee was appointed to study the practicability for a permanent headquarters and full time secretary, changes in committees, officials and their duties and such other matters as are considered necessary to the streamlining and growth of our program of activities, financial matters attending and influencing such a program. They are to present a plan in cooperation with the By-Laws Committee that can be acted upon at the next Annual Meeting.

At the 1957 Annual Meeting, the Board was authorized to cash all of the U.S. Government Bonds that had reached maturity and to purchase new bonds with the principal and interest that the bonds had accumulated over the past 12 years.

The Biological Testing Laboratory was dissolved and an Exploratory Committee for a Plumbing Research and Testing Agency was formed to find a means to accomplish the purposes for which the laboratory was intended.

It was suggested that the Building Research Institute appoint a task force to explore the possibility of establishing a plumbing industry supported agency which could and would perform for the plumbing industry the type of service rendered the electrical industry by the Underwriters Laboratory. In the course of the activities of the task force, they requested a meeting with a committee appointed by ASSE's president. Together, our committee of three and the Building Research Institute Task Force would be called "The Plumbing Engineering Council" and if it received enough support from the plumbing industry, the PEC could fill the need for an agency to implement our aims and objectives. We could have the PEC team go to a specific manufacturer's laboratory to make sure tests were being performed properly. If the manufacturer's product complied with the tests, he would be granted a label. Products could be rechecked on a yearly basis to make sure they stay compliant.

With the approval of members, the Board combined the Polio and Disease Research Fund and the Research Endowment Fund into a new fund known as the Research Endowment Fund. An Annual Meeting Fund was established with the Illinois Chapter being the first to contribute to this fund. Florida, Eastern Missouri, Western Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Women's Auxiliary contributed to this fund in 1958.

It was noted at the 1958 Annual Meeting that Thomas J. Claffy of Chicago, IL, the last of our original charter members had died.

A motion was made by Wendell Dillon and passed that the Treasurer Mike Mercury be authorized to set up \$100.00 as a special petty cash fund for incidental office expenses and the fund would be at the disposal of all committees.

The first year at our Central Office was devoted to a complete rehabilitation of records. Our new system permitted the office to process dues more efficiently, improving collections, thus allowing time to initiate new projects. We are devising an improved system for the remittance of dues by the chapter secretaries that will be much simpler for the chapter and for Central Office and guarantee more accuracy. It will enable the chapter secretary to have a duplicate of all dues sent to us and at the same time would eliminate the individual entries previously required. By 1961, the average correspondence was about 12,000 pieces per year or 2¼ miles of

letters if laid end to end. Our outgoing mail uses postage averaging \$600 per year. Postage was \$.04 an ounce.

Another project the Central Office had been involved with was the filing of a Tax Exemption Form which would enable the Society to receive contributions to the Endowment Fund and enable those making contributions to deduct them from their income tax as a charitable contribution. This entailed making two copies of all financial reports for the past twenty years, two copies of the original By-Laws, plus all amendments and statements concerning the purpose of the Society, and filling out an Internal Revenue form.

Edgar Schmidt, a Plumbing Consultant at DuPont Corp. said, "Our starting point is research. The where are we going is standards and the why is progress- the need to know and to grow. To arrive at this standard, we must start with research".

ASSE issued its first standard, *The Standards and Test Procedures for Pipe Applied Atmospheric Type Vacuum Breakers* after the 1960 Annual Meeting where it was first introduced and read to the membership.

President John F. Kennedy wrote a letter to ASSE in 1961 praising the Society for their fine work in the field of water conservation. Congressman Edward Reinecke introduced a joint resolution to Congress to declare November "Water Conservation Month" and was signed into law that same year.

In early 1962, President John F. Kennedy invited our President Edward J. Zimmer to attend the Safety Council Meeting in Washington, D.C. Because President Zimmer was not able to attend, it was recommended that 1st Vice President James Church or someone closer to the area of the meeting attend on his behalf.

A membership kit was given to all chapter presidents. The kit contained aids for a membership drive. We again had a "members" membership month this year, whereby a membership application was placed in the newsletter encouraging every member to bring a member into their chapter.

Louis Geller, who gave the 1962 Research Committee Report, told of an interesting news headline. The headline said that Chinese archaeologist had uncovered the site of a 2,000 year old capital of the first emperor of the Chin Dynasty, and found the site had remains of city walls of beaten earth, wells, a drainage system and houses along the banks of the Wei River, which meant that sanitation existed 2,000 years ago.

A motion at the 1962 Annual Meeting passed to offer a Group Life Insurance Plan to the membership at the Annual Meeting. Arrangements for the group insurance for the Society were completed and details were in the October 1963 *News-letter*. The Board agreed that unless a substantial majority wanted to take advantage of the low cost protection, the insurance would not be feasible. The chapters mentioned the insurance to their members and it was decided at the 1968 Annual Meeting to put the question of insurance before the membership.

Another motion, which passed, was to prepare a new *Activities Booklet* with an initial investment of \$1500.00. It proved to be a vast improvement over the previous folder.

It was unanimously voted that the National's portion of the annual dues paid be increased to \$13.00 because of increased costs for operation of the Society due to raises in postage, stationary, new and additional copies of *Activities Booklets*, increased cost of printing, costs involved in developing new chapters and assisting present chapters with better programs and increased contact from officers and Central Office, increased assistance to chapters in developing better programs and assistance to the membership committee and other committees through mailings and literature and similar activities involving increased expenditures reflecting the raise in cost over several years.

## The ASSE Seals and Standards Programs are Created

President Zimmer said in his 1962 President's Report that he had the privilege of attending the Vacuum Breaker Standards Committee meeting

held in Detroit and commented that the Michigan Chapter encompassed one of the first meetings ever to be held on a particular and pertinent part of the mechanism of plumbing.

In 1962, the first ASSE Standard, *Pipe Applied Atmospheric Type Vacuum Breakers* was presented and approved by the Society, and became the first workable standard - "acceptable to the agencies having testing laboratories ... [and] acceptable to the industry." Ed Zimmer, ASSE National President stated that this committee for the development of standards became a standing committee of the Society through the By-Laws.

The first standards sold for \$1.00 each. A motion to increase the price per standard to \$1.50 was passed at the 1970 Annual Meeting. The Board decided to raise the price to \$2.00 for non-members in 1972. The cost was raised again in 1979 to \$5.00. By 2006, the price per standard had risen to \$45.00 each with a 25% discount for members.

Today, ASSE has 45 published product standards with an additional eight in the development stages. ASSE also has two professional qualifications standards for the plumbing and pipefitting industries - the ASSE/ANSI Series 5000, *Professional Qualifications Standards for Backflow Testers, Repairers and Surveyors*, and the ASSE/ANSI Series 6000, *Professional Qualifications Standards for Medical Gas Systems Installers, Inspectors and Verifiers*. The ASSE/ANSI Series 5000 is the only voluntary, consensus standard for backflow testers, repairers and surveyors in the United States.

ASSE product standards are minimum performance requirements for component parts of the plumbing system. ASSE standards detail how a product is intended to function under normal operating conditions, not how it is designed or manufactured.

The next step for ASSE was to develop a program readily available to the public demonstrating a manufacturer's ability to comply with the ASSE standards. The ASSE Seal Control Board was established in 1964. The original design of the seal is not to be larger than one inch, in green and gold similar to the ASSE pin. It would not provide for any numbering system. The design should be used in the original form except where it will be stamped in, cast on or printed on the carton. The seals will be available only from the Central Office. The only wording on this seal will be "ASSE Approved" under the testing standard.

There would be an initial annual subscription fee of \$100.00 for the use of the seal, the amount subject to annual review by the Board. Where the same company makes two items requiring different testing standards, each succeeding item would have a subscription of \$10.00, where same standard would be applicable to more than one product of a company, no additional subscription beyond the annual \$100.00 would be required. Where individual seals would be required for sticking to the product, these would be available only from Central Office at a cost to user of base cost plus 40%. At the 1970 Annual Meeting, a motion passed to increase the initial fee to \$150.00

The Seal Control Board, now consisting of seven voting members and two nonvoting members, was charged with the task of designing and implementing a program for certifying products to display the ASSE Seal.

The Seal Program is a laboratory tested verification that a plumbing product performs according to a specific product standard. By having the authority to display the ASSE Seal, a manufacturer is providing verification that his product has been tested by an independent laboratory, has been submitted for review, and approved by the Seal Control Board.

ASSE had completed the design for the ASSE Seal and filed the necessary forms to obtain Federal Registration of the Seal, and in 1965 the first Seal was granted. Currently there are over forty thousand (40,000) products and/or models used throughout the world with the authority to display the ASSE Seal on their plumbing products.

There were 2250 members and 30 sustaining members reported in 1963. Twelve chapters had a Ladies Auxiliary: Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, Nebraska, California, Hawaii, Michigan, Minnesota, New York and Wisconsin. Auxiliaries from the Georgia Chapter and Southern Louisiana Chapter were added in 1966.

Secretary Sanford Schwartz reminded everyone at the 1963 Annual Meeting that the chapters receive 10% commission on each new advertisement they secure and continue to receive 10% of the space cost as long as the advertiser continues to advertise with us.

A motion was passed to give a letter and an individually engraved sterling silver pen to all 25 year members as recognition for their efforts in our Society.

The question of incorporation for chapters was discussed at the 1964 Board Meeting. This would protect officers against liability. A motion to this affect was passed at the 1966 Annual Meeting.

ASSE issued the very first professional qualifications standard in the industry - the Series 5000, *Professional Qualifications for Backflow Testers, Repairers and Surveyors* in 1991.

ASSE's newest program is the Cross Connection Control Certification of Completion Guidelines for Backflow Testers, Repairers, and Surveyors. Based on the ASSE/ANSI Series 5000 Professional Qualifications Standards Series, qualified individuals are certified as a cross connection control specialist. Each individual must demonstrate his ability to pass both a written and a practical examination based on the information found in the Series 5000 and in the ASSE product standards relating to backflow and cross connection.

At the 1966 Annual Meeting, Secretary Sanford Schwartz reported that membership had grown to 2279. Our Society had 30 chapters: Alabama, Central Arizona, Southern Arizona, Arkansas, British Columbia, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Northern Louisiana, South Louisiana, Massachusetts, Metropolitan Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, East Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rocky Mountain, Wisconsin, William J. Wilson Memorial, and Member At Large. Member At Large consisted of members from Canada, Connecticut, England, Holland, Indiana, Japan, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Philippines, Panama Canal, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.

Vernon Baker, Chairman of the newly formed Dewey R. Dedrick Jr. Award Committee recommended at the 1966 Annual Meeting that the Society establish an Annual Award to commemorate the work that the late Dewey R. Dedrick Jr. contributed to our Society. A sum of \$250.00 would be given to a Society member who submitted or presented the best paper detailing progress in disease research, mechanical in nature, in which he was directly or indirectly involved. Money would be raised for the award from contributions given by companies, chapters, auxiliaries, individuals or other groups who wish to commemorate Dewey Dedrick and by re-activating the polio gun by having it mounted on a plaque and raffled off each year for \$1.00 per ticket. The winner of the raffle would have his name inscribed on the plaque and would have possession of it for one year. He would also receive a certificate indicating that he won the award.

Since there were no papers submitted for the award since its inception, the Dewey R. Dedrick Jr. Award Committee recommended that the competition be opened to members and member-sponsored participants, and also to widen the scope of subjects to include topics on protection of health and plumbing. In 1970 the recipient of the Dewey R. Dedrick Jr. Award was given to Past National President Wendell M. Dillon of the MA Chapter for his report titled *The Not So Strange Case of the Holy Cross Football Team*. In 1971 the award was given to Robert Flint of Milwaukee, WI for his report entitled *MAIKINBAC*. The reports were printed in the *Yearbook*.

A review of the number of entries that have been received since 1966 led committee Chairman Sanford Schwartz to believe that the concept of the award should be changed so that it would serve a more useful purpose. The committee's recommendation was to award \$200.00, plus an attractive plaque, to the ASSE Chapter showing the best, overall performance based upon membership, meeting, management and promotion. The first recipient of the Dewey R. Dedrick Jr. Award was the Illinois Chapter.

In 1965, the Board authorized an increase in the size of the *News-letter* in order to include articles of a technical nature each month. Members were asked to submit technical articles which they felt would be of interest to fellow members.

A motion was made to the By-Laws Committee that the incorporation of chapters be permitted.

Another motion that was made in 1966 was for the President to appoint the immediate Past President to act as a liaison between the National Women's Auxiliary and the Board of Directors.

It was customary for a member completing twenty-five years membership with ASSE to be enrolled as a member of the Quarter Century Club and presented with a commemorative pen. It was recommended that, in lieu of a pen, a certificate suitably framed shall hereafter be presented to commemorate the occasion. A motion passed at the 1968 Annual Meeting to distribute 35 year and 50 year membership certificates in addition to the 25 year certificates and to publicize the names of the members in the *News-letter*.

A resolution passed to appoint a committee to make a statistical and financial study and, if necessary, explore the means for the establishment of a Life Membership Fund so older members with a reduced income could remain members.

Another resolution that passed was plumbing apprentices' and students' eligibility to active membership be revised to a status of associate member, paying only one-half dues to encourage more apprentices to join in furthering their progress in the industry.

Secretary Sanford Schwartz reported in 1966 that in order to cooperate with the U.S. Postal Department, it was necessary to have our entire mailing list zip-coded that year. This involved Central Office adding the zip codes to the address plates.

Secretary Schwartz was also directed to write to each chapter urging them to initiate contacts in their state to acquaint the proper authorities involved with public health and plumbing with the ASSE, and to offer other assistance in these areas.

Membership dues increased to \$20.00 after a motion was passed at the 1968 Annual Meeting.

## **ASSE and Publishing in the 1960's and 1970's**

Another motion that was passed in 1968 was to authorize the publishing of the final report of the Plumbing Nomenclature Committee in the form of a dictionary of plumbing terms. There were still issues to be resolved such as which entries belong in a plumbing dictionary. Central Office was asked to research the cost of publishing and selling the *Plumbing Dictionary* when completed. In 1970, the Board authorized the printing of 5000 *Plumbing Term Dictionaries* and printing was completed in 1971. The book will be soft-cover bound and would be sold at a cost of \$7.50 per copy. There was a pre-publication offer of \$6.00 per copy.

When published, the *Plumbing Dictionary* by I. D. Jacobson was the first of its kind and was used as a reference by schools, libraries and even in courts of law. The Board authorized a 2nd Edition of the *Plumbing Dictionary* in 1972 and it was completed by 1975. The third edition of the *Plumbing Dictionary* was authorized in 1978 and completed in 1979. In 1986, a resolution passed to have the ASSE *Plumbing Dictionary* dedicated to the memory of Budd Jacobson in recognition of the unselfish donation of his time and effort over the years in the creation of the dictionary. The fourth edition was printed in 1988 and sold for \$12.50 and the fifth edition was issued in 1997 at a cost of \$15.00. In 2006, the *Plumbing Dictionary* is being sold for \$28.00.

President William Koenig moved that Secretary Sanford Schwartz pursue the legal aspects of the Plumbing Testing Laboratory. C. Frank Shaw, Chairman of the Committee for Financing a Laboratory, reported at the 1969 Annual Meeting that the bare necessities would require a least raising one-quarter of a million dollars and borrowing the balance needed. This would be a tremendous undertaking without even considering the legal

matter, so the committee had unanimously concurred that financially we were not in a position to pursue this any further.

President James Shelton stated at the 1970 Annual Meeting "Your Board of Directors has provided for an official ASSE Testing Laboratory. Testing under ASSE Standards, using ASSE Testing Procedures, is now underway at the National Sanitation Foundation". By 1972, we had three laboratories testing to our standards for seal authorization: Factory Mutual in the east; National Sanitation Foundation in the midwest; and Twinning Laboratories in the west.

President Shelton also mentioned that for years ASSE has had a Plumbing Code Committee who have assisted in writing other codes and have provided advice and assistance to states and municipalities. In doing this, they were working toward an ASSE plumbing code. The *ASSE Code Book* is finished and ready for publication. The 1970 Board asked our Secretary to investigate the details of printing the *ASSE Plumbing Code Reference Guide*. Treasurer Mike Mercury made a motion to pay for the printing of the *ASSE Plumbing Code Reference Guide* from the funds in the Research Endowment Fund and to return any profit to that fund after the sale of the publication. The Board of Directors established \$5.00 as the price for the Guide.

A motion was passed to eliminate the film list from the 1970 *Yearbook* and include an accumulative index of Refresher Course Papers presented since the last indexing. The Board authorized President Frank C. Richards to appoint a committee to investigate the list of current standing committees and determine if some could be combined or eliminated.

The seal authorizations were published in the *Yearbook* for the first time in 1970.

A motion was passed to have the Secretary investigate the cost of securing an official ASSE Banner for use at the Annual Meetings and make a full report to the Board. The banner was first displayed at the 1971 Annual Meeting.

It was determined that there was a need for an inspector's guide. The trend in building construction was toward the use of combination inspectors, those who inspect the structural and those who inspect the mechanical construction. To avoid hazards to the public, the Education Committee under the direction of Mario Fala had developed such a handbook for the instruction of combination inspectors. Sale of the ASSE *Residential Plumbing Inspector's Manual* by Mario Fala began in mid 1973. By 1976, a second edition printed in 1977. In 1982, Sanford Schwartz worked on updating the *Residential Plumbing Inspector's Manual* and having the third edition ready for printing. Mario Fala revised the fourth edition, which was printed in 1998.

Earnest Redfern said, "92% of all bathtubs in the world are in the United States. This says to me that the people of the United States are not necessarily cleaner than those of other countries, but that we have made safe, personal hygiene much easier to accomplish than in other parts of the world. ASSE has played a major role in this accomplishment".

Central Office initiated the printing of a *Sustaining Members Directory* which would contain the company name, address, phone number, their sustaining member and a brief description of their firm. The directory was distributed to all members so they would be aware of the companies that support the ASSE

Thomas McCarthy, Chairman of the Chapter Advisory and Development Committee was concerned about declining membership and suggested that chapters hold an open meeting to which non-members who were engineers, plumbing inspectors, plumbing contractors, journeyman plumbers, manufacturer's representatives (all potential members) were invited. An appropriate speaker should be engaged and the value of ASSE membership could be discussed. Chapters should form a Ladies Auxiliary and hold a few social functions such as an annual dinner dance, a golf outing or picnic, etc.

"National Plumbing Industry Week" was held April 15-22, 1973 and ASSE helped support the effort by using the special postage stamps for all outgoing correspondence.

Secretary Sanford Schwartz reported in 1973 that the Seal Program was self-sufficient under a chairman and ASSE had 14 Standards, generally accepted throughout the country with 25 companies displaying the ASSE Seal on their products.

In 1973, the Society had 34 chapters: Alabama, Central Arizona, Southern Arizona, Arkansas, British Columbia, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Florida-West Coast, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Northern Louisiana, Massachusetts, Metropolitan Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rocky Mountain, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Badger Wisconsin and Members at Large.

Some accomplishments in 1974 were; the final endorsement of ASSE through the efforts of First Vice President Ray Brown of the United States Air Force Training Seminar for Drainage Facilities and Waste Treatment which was held at Randolph Field in Dallas; the finalization of ASSE commitment to participate in the fuel energy program through the Atomic Energy Commission; appointed a committee to participate in the program of Water Supply and Drainage Inside Buildings conducted by the U.S. National Research Council Academy of Sciences and Engineering which was held in Washington D.C.

President Brown suggested the National Office investigate the price of a Society emblem in the form of a decal and report to the Board on its findings.

It was reported at the 1974 Annual Meeting that the State of Michigan had accepted the ASSE Seal of Approval, subject to review of specific products.

Mike Mercury suggested in 1975 that we take the money from the Endowment Fund, which was a checking account, and put it into interest bearing Certificates of Deposit.

A committee was appointed to investigate the matter of producing an *ASSE Plumbing Criteria Handbook*.

One of the projects accomplished by Central Office in 1975 was the printing of the new *Seal Authorization Listing Booklet*.

A motion passed at the 1976 Annual Meeting to raise membership dues by \$2.00. A reduced rate of \$5.00 for Student dues remained in effect.

It was suggested that we devise a way to recognize first time attendees at the Annual Meeting and a motion passed to issue a badge designating "First Timer".

The Central Office produced a Photo-Slide Program with the help of Wendell Dillon and Moe Weinberg. The Photo-Slide Program was to be used by the National and chapters to promote ASSE and the ASSE Seal and Standards Programs. By 1976, 22 chapters bought the set of slides; 10 did not.

Central Office also developed a printed presentation depicting the willingness of the ASSE to cooperate with the state government in solving problems that fall within the area of ASSE activities. The presentation was to be presented to the governors of the states. Connecticut, Michigan and Pennsylvania Chapters presented these papers to their governors with excellent press coverage. Wisconsin would also present the papers and a few other chapters have requested an appointment with the governor to make the presentation. It was a disappointment that more chapters did not show interest in the presentation.

A study was made into the possibility of producing a magazine to promote ASSE standards. A motion was passed at the 1976 Annual Meeting that one issue of the *ASSE Standards Magazine* be published as an experiment. It wasn't until 1988 that we were able to establish a workable format to enable the Society to have the magazine published without straining our finances.

A special feature started with the December 1976 *News-Letter* whereby experts in the field were asked to contribute original articles for publication. The articles pertained to inspection, foreign code requirements, new materials, etc.

Upon investigating ways to reduce the cost of the *Yearbook*, Secretary Sanford Schwartz reported that the binding could be changed from a hard cover to perfect binding which would save about \$2000.00 on the cost. Sustaining members were again given a reduction of \$50.00 for a one page ad in the *Yearbook*. To further reduce the cost of mailing the *Yearbook*, it was decided that the method of mailing be changed. Any chapter that wanted could have the *Yearbooks* sent to the chapter for distribution and National would give them \$.50 for every *Yearbook* sent to them. Those chapters who chose not to distribute *Yearbooks* to their members would be charged \$.50 for every *Yearbook* Central Office sent out to their chapter's members.

Richard H. Toder, Chairman of the Legionnaires' Disease Task Force, made it a priority to research the causes of the Legionnaires' Disease. A Legionnaires' Disease Research Fund was established by ASSE in 1980. A great deal of research helped us to limit the enormous field of possibilities in its origin and we were very gratified to note the cooperative exchange of ideas among all the fields related to this problem. The disease was first recognized when an outbreak occurred at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia, PA in July 1976. ASSE became involved with L.D. when it struck New York at Macy's Dept. Store. The cause was thought to be a contaminated water supply. The ASSE offered its engineering expertise to assist the authorities in sorting the facts and formed a committee which later became international and established a liaison with the Federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) on this matter. Macy's contaminated water supply was ruled out and the cause of the epidemic was said to be discovered by the Center for Disease Control as a bacteria called "Legionella Pneumophia" that was said to be associated with air conditioning systems. Dr. Harold N. Runsdorf devoted many years to finding the true cause of Legionnaires Disease. He concluded that the pyrolyzing fluorocarbons such as refrigerants R-11 and R-12 used in air conditioning and refrigeration equipment can form toxic gases, which, when leaked into the atmosphere with water and are inhaled, are in the acidic stage. When the acid comes in contact with the moisture in the lungs it causes a chemical pneumonitis, thus creating pulmonary edema. Legionnaires' Disease outbreaks can be controlled by maintaining the air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, checking for refrigerant leaks and adhering to proper maintenance procedures.

It was noted at the 1977 Annual Meeting that ASSE had developed an ongoing and close liaison with many of the other code writing bodies such as BOCA, IAPMO, Southern Building Officials Conference, the National Bureau of Standards and others through the efforts of many members of ASSE

A motion was passed to have the ASSE become a member of ANSI.

President Cohen was asked to appoint a Publication Sales Committee to oversee sales of all ASSE publications.

First Vice President Rosemary Sherer, was working with Dominic Soffietto in establishing the goals for a Plumbing Correspondence Designers Course.

A By-Law change beginning in 1979 increased membership dues by \$1.00 each year for five successive years. At the end of five years, the annual dues would be \$30.00. Sustaining members dues were increased to \$100.00 per year. The initial seal authorization fee, as of June 1, 1978 would be \$300.00.

In 1979, Central Office undertook a new project called *Chapter Chatter*, which was a series of monthly mini news letters for chapter officers. The articles covered such topics as membership, annual meetings, chapter meetings and the Chapter Presidents Liaison Conference.

Richard Toder recommended that the approval Seal be changed which brought discussion pertaining to the ASSE logo being changed as well. After comments from Morris Weinberg and Sanford Schwartz regarding past history and further discussion on the subject, it was agreed not to change either the logo or the seal.

A suggestion was made for a new Honorary status to be considered as "Fellows". Pending further information, the suggestion was tabled.

A By-Law was added in 1979 for the Fellowship Award Committee at each Annual Meeting to propose nominations to the Board of Directors. Election of members to Fellowship status shall be made by the Board of Directors from candidates selected by the Committee.

Rosemary Sherer presented a proposal by Joseph Petro of New York to write an *Energy and Conservation Guidelines*. The Board would review the guidelines upon its completion for possible publication by ASSE. The first draft was completed by the 1979 Annual Meeting. The *Energy and Water Conservation Guidelines* that ASSE was preparing was for plumbing only. The final draft was submitted to the Board for approval in 1985, but it was not ready to be printed until 1987. After some discussion on the matter, it was decided to print the book with a hard cover format. The book was finally released in 1988.

It was also suggested that the membership roster be coded by occupation and Sanford Schwartz said that Central Office would act on the suggestion.

In 1979, Casey J. Bielanski replaced our long time Treasurer, Mike Mercury, and Gael Dunn replaced Sanford Schwartz who had been our Secretary for many years.

President Rosemary Sherer said, "I was fortunate enough to learn from some of the giants of this Society... I was surrounded by people who were big enough to unselfishly give me the enlightenment I needed, they guided and encouraged me to carry forth the efforts of the ASSE...through them I learned the route to follow in order to accomplish the goals as set forth by this Society. My slogan "Make It Happen" has many roots: Ray Brown told us to "get involved"...Al Cohen prompted us to "Get the Job Done" and Moe Weinberg stressed "Commitment". As an understudy to Moe Weinberg, I couldn't help but see how he lived up to his own words...he was a dedicated President...who ceaselessly worked to enlighten all our members, and who meticulously outlined for me the course of our Society..."

Rosemary Sherer also said "Our association is growing; we progress through communication and education...As we grow in number, we also grow in strength and in responsibility. Just to show how our Society has grown, in 1945, our Society had 745 members and 28 Sustaining members. As of September 1, 1979 we had 2,724 members and 88 Sustaining members. Between 1944 and 1946, our *News-letter* was issued seven times, only when there was sufficient news, and since 1946, we have never missed an issue. The 1,300 copies of the *Yearbook* published in 1947 cost us about \$3.00 each and the 3,000 copies of the *Yearbook* we published in 1979 with advertising support cost the Society about \$1.80 each. In 1946, we did not have any publications and by 1979 we had 32 publications. In 1945 we had six chapters reporting with a total of 515 members and in 1979 we have 30 chapters reporting with a total of over 2,700 members.

In 1979, we were shown national recognition in our participation with the "Rural Energy Issues Program" which was conducted in the White House with President Carter and his cabinet. We were invited to participate in several national committees such as the American Refrigeration Institute Committee For Recycling Heat and the Producers Council for Continuing Educational Programs. Morris Weinberg participated on the A.R.I. Committee. Through the efforts of Joe Petro, Chairman of the Plumbing Specification Format, we have been recognized and invited to meet with the Construction Specification Institute to review our proposed format for the separation of plumbing from heating and ventilating. Internationally, we gave the Mexican Embassy information regarding various code requirements in the United States and have submitted information for their use.

Richard H. Toder introduced a new and very effective column of "Questions and Answers" which appeared in our monthly bulletin which produced another avenue for direct communication among members.

When Sanford Schwartz said that he would be retiring, Morris Weinberg chaired the committee for the search for a new executive secretary and was unanimously decided to hire Gael Dunn who has been with the association for 15 years. She had been responsible for a great percentage of the mechanics required to successfully operate our Central Office.

Rosemary Sherer, Chairman of the Plumbing Design Correspondence Course, who was working with Dominic Soffietto, gave a report at the 1970 Annual Meeting concerning the desire to establish a Plumbing Design Correspondence Course by this Society. The idea originated in 1971 at which time several members pooled their talents in an effort to establish that goal, however, it did not materialize. Action was initiated in 1978 by the Role of the Plumbing Designer in ASSE Committee with James Church as Chairman. He presented a basic outline, covering curriculum breakdown, probable cost factors, etc. The course would run a close parallel to the course given by the Plumbing Designers Educational Foundation at the New York University. A similar course was also functioning in Pennsylvania and Chicago. In September of 1979, Thomas Konen, Chief of the Research Division in Building Technology of Stevens Institute expressed interest in the Plumbing Design Correspondence Course. The course at this point still needed work as it was geared to a designer's level and should be divided into several sections and categories. By 1982, the project was at the point where we could start taking applications and begin around the first of the 1983 year with the first part of the three part course. Over 350 responses were received from the flyer released in 1983. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Stevens Institute experienced both administrative and organizational changes that caused a severe setback with our program. It was reported by President Alex Weinberg in 1989 that the committee was looking into a new school to take over the Plumbing Design Correspondence Course since Stevens Institute did not finish the program. Because the Plumbing Design Correspondence Course had been around for about ten years, Chairman Rosemary Sherer was asked to update the Course.

The *Cross-Connection Protection Device Booklet* by James C. Church was published in 1980.

Beginning with the 1981 Annual Meeting, the preparation and running of this event was shifted from the local chapter jurisdiction to Central Office. This meant handling hotel arrangements, including planning of cocktail parties, luncheons, banquet, meeting room arrangements, printing of the souvenir and pocket programs, pre-registration, including badges, ribbons, tickets, envelopes, etc., assisting the Refresher Course Committee by printing and distributing the *Speakers Handbook* and preparing the certificates and badges for the individual speakers.

Because of the high cost of printing, a motion was passed at the 1981 Annual Meeting to have the *News-letter* printed by-monthly for one year and change the paper from coated stock to offset stock.

The annual dues of active and associate members were increased as of January 1, 1982 to \$32.00 with \$5.00 given to chapters. The dues would increase 15% each year for four consecutive years and in 1983 and 1984 chapters would get \$6.00, in 1985 and 1986 chapters would get \$7.00. At the end of 1986, the annual dues would be \$54.00 with Central Office receiving \$47.00 and the chapter receiving \$7.00.

At the 1982 Annual Meeting, Gael Dunn said "As you know, the operation of Central office involves an enormous amount of clerical work including roster maintenance, dues logging, dues invoicing, maintaining mailing lists, communications with chapters and committees, sale of publications, etc. During the past year, I have been investigating the possibility of converting our record keeping to a small business computer. The Board of Directors has approved the purchase of some type of a computer system which will enable us to eliminate much of the repetitive, hand-done work that is so time consuming. This will give us the opportunity to spend the extra time working on other projects such as membership drives, sales of publications, publicity and many other projects. We hope to incorporate a new system within the next 6 months". A computer/word processor was purchased in June, 1983.

The major projects of the Publications & Public Relations Committee continue to be the *Yearbook*, the monthly *News-letter* and the *Standards Report*. They are also responsible for the preparation and printing of all Society literature, brochures, books, news releases and various correspondence

relating to the Society's activities. The computer has decreased the cost of printing our *News-letter* by about half and we have begun to put the Society back in the black on the financial picture.

A motion that a certificate be awarded to the retiring members of the Board of Directors passed at the 1982 Annual Meeting.

Beginning with the 1983 *Yearbook*, pictures of the Board of Directors were to be put in the *Yearbook* along with our president's picture.

The Wylie W. Mitchell Award was established and would be given to the best overall speaker at the E. J. Zimmer Technical Seminar held at our Annual Meeting. The award was given out for the first time in 1984 and the recipient was James Whitelaw from FEBCO who spoke about *Cross Connection Control in Hospitals*.

The E. J. Zimmer Refresher Course papers were printed as a separate book beginning with the 1985 Annual Meeting. Central Office advertised the new *E. J. Zimmer Refresher Course* book in national and local plumbing publications, sent news releases to libraries and apprentice schools, etc. and have sold more of these than we ever have sold *Yearbooks* in the past.

A project for Central Office is to print a Society handbook for National Officers and Chapter Officers. John Nussbaum, Chairman of the Publication Committee, volunteered to update the handbook which was started many years ago by Sanford Schwartz, Wylie Mitchell and Ray Brown. It was completed in 1987.

In 1986, Central Office finished working on a *Director's Guideline* drafted by Refresher Course Director, Joe Petro.

Gael Dunn reported in her 1986 Executive Secretary's Report that Central Office had purchased a headline machine which eliminated the use of typesetting and will enable the office to do almost all of the printing setup in-house.

A resolution passed to have all future printings of the ASSE *News-letter* be dedicated to Past International Secretary Sanford Schwartz who had died.

It was suggested by the By-Laws Committee that the amount received by chapters for Sustaining dues be increased from \$10.00 to \$15.00.

After discussion, the Board decided to have more committee chairmen provide mid-year reports prior to the Mid Year Meeting so that necessary action could be taken on committee work.

Another motion was to have the Refresher Course Program professionally taped and made available for sale at the Annual Meeting. The Board questioned whether this was feasible because slides and other visual material could not be included, so it was decided that the secretary would tape the panel discussions and one other presentation at the next meeting for the Board to review.

It was also reported at the 1986 Annual Meeting that new dies were being worked on for the purchase of a new Society pin.

Membership in 1987 was just under 2000 and we had 72 Sustaining members.

Central Office obtained is list of every city in the United States and from that obtained the names and addresses of plumbing inspection authorities. ASSE literature was then mailed to about 8000 inspectors. The office expected to expand the list to include specifying engineers as well.

A motion was passed at the 1987 Annual Meeting that an award be given to the member who obtains the most new members in a year. The award would be called the James E. Lewis Award in memory of the late Wisconsin Chapter member. The first recipient of this award was Peter Diamond from the Illinois Chapter.

In October 1988, our first issue of *Plumbing Standards* magazine was sent to our membership. Stu Asay, our Standards Coordinator, was instrumental in enabling us to publish the magazine. He continued to publish the magazine from his office in Denver. By 1991, *Plumbing Standards* had a circulation of over 13,000, including members of NAPHCC and MCAA. In 1993, the *News-letter* was again the responsibility of Central Office with Diana Corcoran handling the writing and formatting of the *News-letter*. Central Office also handled all the work on the *Plumbing Standards* maga-

zine. A theme for each issue of the *Plumbing Standards* was established. The publication list was put in the magazine and our publication sales increased dramatically.

It was decided at the Board meeting that complete sets of ASSE Standards would be sold in ring binders at a price of \$280.00 each with members receiving their usual 25% discount. A subscription update service would be \$60.00.

The Board authorized Secretary Gael Dunn to work with Stu Asay to update the Society's slide program. In 1989, the Illinois Chapter volunteered to make ASSE a videotape of the slide presentation free except for the cost of the tape

In 1987, the Executive Director Search Committee recommended Scott Strawbridge fill the Executive Director position for one year and the Board agreed. Jeff Hill was voted the position for 1988 but was unable to fulfill his obligations, so the Board voted to have Stu Asay replace him. In 1989, the Board voted to have the Executive Director position become a full time position.

Central Office prepared and published a membership directory for the Women's Auxiliary in 1990. Central Office also published Auxiliary information in our *News-letter* and assisted the Women's Auxiliary in other areas where we were able be of help to them.

In 1990, the Qualification Standards Committee completed the draft for Standard *Series 5000*, Backflow Prevention Assemblies.

President Nussbaum reported that he was investigating the possibility of publishing a magazine on Medical Gas, and Stu Asay volunteered to prepare a prototype of the magazine at no charge to the Society.

In 1993, the Board hired Bob Dunn as our advertising manager and Joseph C. Zaffuto, P.E. was hired as our staff engineer that same year.

Joseph Zaffuto and Diana Corcoran worked together on the Backflow Certification Program in 1994 and met with the Philadelphia Water Department for acceptance with the City of Philadelphia.

The price of the ASSE Standards increased to \$15.00 in 1994.

At the 1994 Board meeting a motion passed to accept the proposal from NIBS to put ASSE Standards on CD ROM disks and to request that our other standards including the *Series 5000* be included. In 1996, it was decided since Information Handling Systems (IHS) was currently selling our standards on microfiche and microfilm, we should contract them to sell our ASSE Standards on CD ROM as well.

As of September 1995, all Central Office personnel became employees of ASSE with Gael Dunn as Executive Secretary. Gerald Phariss and Ken Kerr put together an *Employee Handbook* and job descriptions.

The ASSE co-sponsored the World Plumbing Conference in Chicago in October, 1996.

Membership dues were increased by \$5.00 in 1996 to \$60.00 and increased by \$5.00 in 1997 and again in 1998. Sustaining dues were raised to \$200.00 per year starting in 1996.

At the 1995 Board Meeting, a motion passed to develop a standard on Medical Gas Verifiers- the Series 6000.

In November 1996, Diana Corcoran replaced Executive Secretary Gael Dunn. Shortly after Gael left, Craig Bing replaced retiring Treasurer Casey Bielanski. Casey gave his time and expertise to ASSE for almost 20 years. At this time, Shannon Corcoran was responsible for the *Plumbing Standards* magazine, the *News-letter*, publication of all new standards, revision of all existing standards and oversaw the publication of the compendium of papers for the WPC Technical Workshops and WPC Program Book.

The Board approved a new database for Central Office after the database was evaluated and it was noted that the program FoxPro would be more efficient. Central Office also started using Quick Books Pro for accounting. We also applied for ISBN numbers for all our publications.

The original draft of the *Series 6000 Professional Qualification Standard for Medical Gas Installers, Verifiers and Inspectors* was completed in 1997.

In 1996, the House and Senate approved a bill and President Clinton signed into law which stated that, where applicable, the Department of

Defense will drop its military specifications and adopt private industry standards, i.e. voluntary consensus standards.

Membership dues were raised for Active members to a minimum of \$70.00 for 1999, a minimum of \$75.00 for 2000 and a minimum of \$80.00 for 2001; a minimum of \$25.00 for Students for 1999-2001; a minimum of \$25.00 for Retired in 1999-2001; and Sustaining membership was raised to \$230.00 for 1999, \$240.00 for 2000 and \$250.00 for 2001.

In 1998, the Long Term Planning Committee recommended that ASSE purchase a building or property and to appoint a committee for the project.

The Presidential Award was established by Joseph Fugelo to be given to a member for exceptional loyalty and dedicated service to our Society. first recipient was Gerald Phariss, IPP from the Texas Chapter in 1999. The following year it was named the Salvatore J. Farruggia Presidential Award.

1999 was a year of change and growth. We purchased property that was more than triple the previously leased space and within the budget allocated. President Elect, Tony Rini helped design our office space, and Past International President Patrick Sugrue spent countless hours overseeing the transformation of the shell of two condominium units into a spacious office. We could not have done this without the help of our Treasurer Craig Bing, 3rd Vice President Ed Lyczko and Dan Corcoran. We also received donations from Sustaining members; Kohler, American Standard and Symmons and also from Past International President Patrick Sugrue's company Lakeside Supply. We were able to move in February, 2000. Our new ASSE headquarters is a combination of two condominium units located at 901 Canterbury Rd., Westlake, OH 44145. We held our first Mid Year Meeting at our new facilities in March of 2000. Working Group meetings are held here on a regular basis. In 2002, ASSE purchased an additional condominium unit adjacent to the two units we now occupy for future expansion. This unit will continue to be leased until such time as ASSE needs the space.

We also updated our computer programs and began putting more pertinent information on our website.

Marianne Waickman took over as Cross Connection Control Coordinator for our Backflow Certification Program in 1999. She is now the Professional Qualifications Program Director.

Marla Gasser (Marla Gasser-Mog) was hired in 2000 as our Office Manager and is in charge of finances, advertising sales, software and hardware upkeep and Annual Meeting planning.

In 2003, we hired another Staff Engineer, Steven Hazzard, who will help our other Staff Engineer Joseph Zaffuto. Unlike Joe, who works out of his home, Steve has an office at our ASSE headquarters. Steve is responsible for overseeing the quality control /factory audit program which is required by the Seal Control Board for both the manufacturers and the approved testing laboratories. He works closely with Joe Zaffuto on the day to day operations of the Seal Program and the Standards Program. Dan Corcoran helps Steve with factory audits.

We began developing a custom database software package in 2003 to help eliminate the duplicate work we currently do with our FoxPro software. The new software will integrate all of our databases, thus eliminating the potential for errors. It will also have several built in safeguards to protect the integrity and confidentiality of the information.

With the announcement at the 2003 Annual Meeting that the Ladies Auxiliary was disbanding, our Society was determined to keep the Scholarship Program active. Richard Prospal became chairman of the

newly formed ASSE/Scholarship Liaison Committee, and through the committee's efforts to sell raffle tickets, ASSE has been able to continue the Scholarship Program.

An award was established to honor members of the industry who devote their time and knowledge to the betterment of our industry through their involvement in standards development activities and code activities. This award was named after Patrick J. Higgins, a huge supporter of ASSE whose dedication and knowledge of plumbing codes and standards was unparalleled. The first recipient of the Patrick J. Higgins Award was John Matthews, P.E. from the Michigan Chapter who received the award in 2003.

Membership dues for 2005 were raised to a minimum of \$85.00 for Active membership, a minimum of \$30.00 for Retired, a minimum of \$20.00 for Student, a minimum of \$55.00 for Government and \$255.00 for Sustaining membership.

Diana Corcoran retired and Kimberly Frantz (Kimberly Haffey) took Diana's position as the Products Listing Director in January, 2005. Diana still works part-time on special projects for ASSE.

Megan Bryant continues as our Publications Director and Web Administrator and Elaine Mathieson continues as our Membership Services Director.

Past President Dick Morin said "Remember Society members, this is your organization. Please help where you can to promote the Society in the plumbing and engineering industry".

Diana Corcoran said "Our members are the most important people in our association. Our members are not dependent on us; we are dependent on them....Our members are necessary for us to survive; without members, the association is without purpose. Our members are the lifeblood of ASSE".

To date, we have 24 chapters; Arizona, California, Northern California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, International, Louisiana, Member At Large, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Central Ohio, Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio, Tulsa Oklahoma, Pacific Northwest, Pennsylvania, Northeastern Pennsylvania, Rocky Mountain, Texas, Texas Gulf Coast, and Wisconsin. We have about 1700 members and over 90 Sustaining members.

Henry David Thoreau said "What's the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on".

Jerome F. McGill said "Water is the largest raw material of United States Industry on a weight basis. Some 25 billion gallons are consumed daily by manufactures, and 150 billion gallons by our population for various purposes. The purification or proper treatment of this water for its end uses is an important and responsible job. The American Society of Sanitary Engineering has made it one of their prime objectives to promote methods of water supply and treatment that would assure the delivery of safe and pure water to users of all types". Throughout its history, ASSE's motto, "Prevention Rather Than Cure" has guided the Society's activities in a wide range of programs designed to educate the industry and the public on the necessity of correct plumbing installations. They always advocated educational and research programs in sanitation and the prevention of water borne diseases such as typhoid and cholera through water and sewer systems.

For the first hundred years, the goals and purpose of our Society has been research, education, the improvement of public relations, creating and promoting reasonable enforceable codes and standards pertaining to plumbing in relation to sanitation and safety. This will be the goal of American Society of Sanitary Engineering during the next hundred years.