

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN

CHAPTER

Established: 1964

The Rocky Mountain Chapter was presented with their charter on April 22, 1964 by National President James C. Church. Our chapter was organized with the help of Carl Aikele and had its headquarters in Denver, Colorado. It was formed to give collective voice to proponents of the industry in the highly vital and progressive boom area of the Rocky Mountain mid-west. Meetings were held every two months and membership quickly rose to 36 with the help of Carl Aikele, Don Martin, Louie Jay and Dave Shore.

This chapter could have chosen the name Mile High Chapter, but it was defeated in favor of Rocky Mountain Chapter because the members did not want to offend other chapters at the inference that other chapters were doing their plumbing down hill.

The program for the rest of 1964 was to prepare a Revised State Plumbing Law under the guidance of the Code Committee with Don Martin as Chairman. It would be submitted to the Colorado State Legislature in 1965.

Membership continued to increase. Our meetings were being held on the third Tuesday of each month. Each meeting consisted of refreshments followed by dinner and our business meeting. We had a guest speaker at each meeting. A special event was our dinner/dance meeting in July.

The chapter's main project for 1967 was, as it has been for the past several years, a new Plumbing Law for the State of Colorado. We worked with the Colorado State Plumbing Advisory Board and the Colorado Pipe Trades Industry Program in this cause.

The chapter's project for 1968 was to establish an Educational Program aimed at the general public and the plumbing trade.

After 1969, the chapter declined and was no longer active.

The chapter re-activated in 1973, thanks to the efforts of Tad Gillen, who was on the ASSE Board. We saw a need for a chapter that would be our main clearinghouse for architects, engineers, contractors and plumbers to get their input into the design of the buildings with which the rocky mountain area was flourishing.

The entire Denver Code had to be rewritten and our chapter President, John Blank, was on the committee working on this project.

The chapter bid for the 1979 Annual Meeting, but due to problems within the chapter, they had to rescind the bid.

Regional Director, Jim Shuler, mentioned in 1998 that one of his objectives was to reactivate the Colorado Chapter that had been dormant for several years. A planning meeting was held in January 1998, and a Series 5000 Certification meeting was held in April. Both meetings were attended by International President Gerald Phariss and Executive Director Diana Corcoran. A meeting in September was held to discuss the goals of this chapter and to elect officers. We had 29 Colorado members to start our chapter anew.

The full reactivation of the chapter took until 2004 to accomplish.

This is an excerpt from the The ASSE Centennial Book "Celebrating 100 Years of "Prevention Rather Than Cure" 1906-2006". To purchase a copy, visit www.asse-plumbing.org/Stds%20Prog%20Info/Pubs%20Order.htm. \$10 of every purchase goes to the ASSE Scholarship Fund.