

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



AMERICAN
SOLAR
ENERGY SOCIETY

**Professor Emerita,
Lawrence Technological
University**



Janice K. Means
PE LEED AP FASHRAE

Why did you become a member of ASES?

I initially became a member of ASES sometime in the late 1970's and continued my membership for a number of years. Around 1980, I had been asked to run for the Board of Directors of the Michigan Solar Energy Association (a chapter of ASES), after MSEA Board members read a series of articles I had authored on solar energy for a local magazine. Last year, I served my first year in a three-year term as an elected Board Member of the current Michigan ASES Chapter, the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association. I enthusiastically renewed my ASES membership this past January.

In what ways are you involved in renewable energy and sustainability?

My involvement has been primarily through education. From 1983 through 1995, I taught solar, HVAC and electricity courses as an adjunct professor at the Lawrence Institute of Technology in Southfield, Michigan while consulting on energy efficiency and solar design. During the last 15 years of my engineering career, I returned to what has now been renamed Lawrence Technological University (LTU) in a full-time tenured position teaching HVAC, electricity, acoustics, high performance buildings and solar energy. I infused the importance of sustainability into every class. Over the years, I chaired or coordinated a number of sustainability and solar seminars, and chaired or co-chaired 10 major regional conferences; the later ones coined with the name: Seminars On Sustainability—SOS for the Environment.

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



AMERICAN
SOLAR
ENERGY SOCIETY

**Professor Emerita,
Lawrence Technological
University**



Janice K. Means PE LEED AP FASHRAE

What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

My greatest pride is for my publications related to sustainability, alternative energy and climate change—primarily through ASHRAE (the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers). I have co-authored and co-edited the 4th, 5th, and 6th Editions of the book, ASHRAE GreenGuide—The Design, Construction, and Operation of Sustainable Buildings, and was past chair for 3 years for ASHRAE's Technical Committee on Solar Energy Utilization. Presently, I am the Handbook Chair for the ASHRAE Technical Committee on Global Climate Change and was a co-author for the original draft of the Global Climate Change Chapter published in the 2021 ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals.

Fun question: What historical person would you like to have dinner with?

I can think of two: Leonardo Da Vinci and Eunice Newton Foote.

Born out of wedlock without support for success, Leonardo delved into and mastered many diverse disciplines. I truly believe that everything is related and teaching and studying in only one area deprives us of the rich tapestry of knowledge that comes through cross pollination.

I recently published an article about Eunice Newton Foote. She was an amazing mid-19th century woman who--without a college degree or institutional support--was the first to discover that CO₂ and water vapor were greenhouse gases. Until 2010, when she was rediscovered, John Tyndall, an Irish physicist, was credited with the discovery. Foote had published her findings three years earlier than Tyndall.

I would ask both of them where they got their motivation and strength to persevere when others doubted their abilities based on their backgrounds.