

# Flashpoint

Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter  
Society of Fire Protection Engineers

SEPTEMBER 2012

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 1

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- AFSA Golf tournament is Monday Sept. 24th contact [Glenn Cooper](#).
- Can you set up web-sites? We can use your help to get our's up again. Contact [Jay Stough](#).
- The 2012-2013 dues are now due. \$20 or \$15 if paid by Oct. 9. See the renewal application on page 5.

## BRING A FRIEND TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR

**Date:** Tuesday Sept 11, 2012

**Place:** Jacobs Engineering  
Group Three Tower Bridge  
Suite 3000 Conshohocken, PA

*See Page 6 for directions*

**5:30 PM:** Fellowship Time

**6:30 PM:** Dinner

### **Dinner Program:**

High Pressure Water Mist Fire Protection – A discussion on the history of high-pressure watermist fire protection systems and its advantages in water-sensitive environments. Natural markets include industrial applications for gas turbines, diesel generators and fume hoods as well as light hazard occupancies for museums, cultural heritage buildings and data centers. Often utilized in applications that are difficult for either conventional sprinklers or gaseous agent systems.

Randy Edwards of Marioff, along with their local rep Kathy Slack of Keystone Fire Protection will be giving the presentation.

**Cost:** \$25.00 for dinner & program

**Reservations:** By 12 noon, Friday,  
September 7th, 2012

### **Reserve with:**

**Shawn Sullivan of Jacobs Engineering by E-mail:**

[shawn.sullivan@jacobs.com](mailto:shawn.sullivan@jacobs.com)

**or Fax: (610) 238-1100❖**

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED AT MAY MEETING

The new officers elected at the May Business meeting are as follows:

**President** – James Davidson PE

**1st VP/Programming**– Michael Veneri PE

**2nd VP/Membership** – Bob Moser PE

**Secretary** – Joseph Stough CET

**Assistant Secretary** – David Kriebel PE

**Treasurer** – John Spitz

**Directors 6/11to 6/13** – Shawn Sullivan PE & Lou Annas

**Directors 6/12 to 6/14** – Tony Ordille & Ryan Schartel

**PRESIDENT'S SPARK BY JIM DAVIDSON PE**

Hope you all had a great and enjoyable summer, and are waiting for the cooler times of autumn. I am writing this edition of "The Spark" watching hurricane Isaac pound New Orleans, LA on the seventh anniversary of hurricane Katrina destroying New Orleans. And still people refused to evacuate when told to do so and now the emergency response personnel are risking their lives to rescue people who have failed to take the advice of the public safety personnel and evacuate before the hurricane reached landfall.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." is a quote by George Santayana, a American author of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, which is ironic since we as a people cannot remember the result of events occurring only 7 years ago. So as Bob Foraker stated on the last sentence of his September 2007 Spark "So please remember the lessons of history, lest we forget and are forced to painfully learn them over and over again."

The local weather station is forecasting that the remnants of hurricane Isaac will be arriving in the Delaware Valley over the Labor Day Weekend time to check our home pre-planning, extra water, batteries, battery powered radio, ice, etc.,

Speaking of "Pre-Planning" lets mark our calendars, MS Outlook and what other electronic calendar we use and schedule attendance at our local SFPE General Membership Meetings.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Michael Venneri PE is scheduling some great speakers and technical topics. I would also like to remind our "PE" members who need to obtain CEUs that each technical dinner meeting is 1 CEU.

I would like to take this time to thank Rick Coppola our most recent Past President and members of the Board for their support and assistance during my first year as President. I would also thank the membership for their support because without your support the Philadelphia – Delaware Valley Chapter of the SFPE would not exist, please get involved and come to the monthly meetings.

I am looking forward to seeing you all on September 11, 2012 at Jacobs Engineering. Have a fire safe day!

**"Freedom is not an ideal, it is not even a protection, if it means nothing more than the freedom to stagnate."**

By [Adlai E. Stevenson](#)

Respectfully, Jim

**PHILA—DELAWARE VALLEY GOES FOR THE GOLD!**

It's true! The Phila chapter has achieved the Gold Chapter Award again this year. There are 41 chapters across the country and 17 achieved the Chapter Awards. Of those 17, only 6 had the highest standard of Gold. The award reviews a variety of areas such as membership, professional practice, education and training, organization and other chapter activities. Congratulations to the chapter and a big thank you to those who helped with the application: Jim Davidson, Phil Gaughan, Rick Coppola, Phil Sconyo and Jeff Mattern!

**FLASHPOINT**

"The purpose of FLASHPOINT is to provide a forum for the transfer of information between members of the Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) and to give the Chapter visibility."

**Newsletter/Publicity Committee:**

JAY STOUGH

Information for publication can be submitted to: **Jay Stough**

Email: [jays@tilleyfire.com](mailto:jays@tilleyfire.com)

This Newsletter is published 9 or 10 times/year (September through June) and received as part of membership of the Chapter. Membership Dues are \$20.00 collected annually in the Fall of the Year. For an Application of Membership contact: **Bob Moser**

Email: [Bob.Moser@jacobs.com](mailto:Bob.Moser@jacobs.com)

**Visit our web site at:**

Articles written are the views of the Author and not necessarily those of the Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter of SFPE. ♦

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED AT THE MAY MEETING

At the annual business meeting held on May 8th a number of awards were presented. There are three Chapter awards that can be given, and this year the Awards Committee had the privilege of presenting all of them.

**Davis-Searle Distinguished Leadership Award:** Rick Coppola was the recipient this year. Rick leadership included 2 years as President of the Chapter, treasurer of the Fire protection networking coalition since it's beginning in 2000 and his continuing leadership on committees and activities of the organization.

**Frank J. Spitz, Jr. Service Award:** Dave Kriebel has served as Secretary for the Chapter for many, many years. He also has been one of the leading people on the Scholarship committee. He works on the applications, gets them to the rest of the committee to review; and when the applicants are selected, he informs them and makes the arrangements for the presentation at the May meeting.

**William C. Tamburro, Sr. Vendor Support Award:** The only surprise about the recipient of this award is why it took so long to be given to the Oliver Fire Protection & Security Company. The Oliver Company has a long history of the owners and employees being active in our chapter as members and officers.



Committee Chair Phil Gaughan presenting Dick Oliver, Steve Oliver & John Spitz with the William C. Tamburro Vendor Support Award

The hat's Off awards were presented by President Jim Davidson to the following: John Spitz for his work as treasurer; Phil Gaughan for his continued work on behalf of the

chapter and help to the president; and Jay Stough for his work on the monthly newsletter, Flashpoint.



Committee Chair Phil Gaughan presenting Dave Kriebel with the Frank J. Spitz Service Award



President Jim Davidson presenting Past President Phil Gaughan with the Hat's off Award



Robert Clark receiving the John Cook Scholarship from Dave Kriebel.

There was one **John Cook Scholarship** awarded this year. The recipient is Robert D. Clark from the Delaware Technical and Community college. Robert is a second year student from Elsmere Delaware. His GPA is 3.42.

## ANTIFREEZE SYSTEMS GONE?

With the new TIA 13-1 for NFPA 13, are we going to see many more antifreeze systems? Although this only applies to the 2013 edition of NFPA 13, there are other things that come into play. The first reason is that the use of antifreeze presents a potential hazard and once a hazard is known to the industry, it must be addressed. The second reason is TIA 11-3 for NFPA 25 (2011); specifically section 5.3.4.2.1. Here is a copy of that wording:

"If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals."

*J.K. Rowling, Author*

**5.3.4.2.1\*** For systems installed prior to September 30, 2012, listed antifreeze solutions shall not be required until September 30, 2022 where all of the following conditions are met:

- (1)\* The concentration of the antifreeze solution shall be limited to 50% glycerin by volume or 40% propylene glycol by volume.
- (2) Newly introduced solutions shall be factory premixed antifreeze solutions (chemically pure or United States Pharmacopoeia 96.5%).
- (3)\* Antifreeze systems with concentrations in excess of 30% propylene glycol and 38% glycerine shall be permitted based upon an approved deterministic risk assessment.

Even though antifreeze systems will not be prohibited before 2022, the fact that someone has to make a "deterministic risk assessment", on existing systems ( or new systems when they get inspected) it is likely you will be seeing less and less of these systems. For more information go the [NFPA website](#).



## SFPE NATIONAL NEWS

Mark your calendars for the 2012 ANNUAL MEETING: SFPE Professional Development Conference and Exposition being held October 14-19 at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA. More information can be found [here](#).

**Fire Protection Symposium 2012, September 18, 2012** – In an ongoing effort to provide the fire protection community in Wisconsin with the latest developments in design and technology, the SFPE Wisconsin Chapter hosts the annual Fire Protection Symposium at the Hilton Garden Inn in Oshkosh, WI. Speakers include: James A. Milke, Ph.D., Karl Wiegand, Morgan Hurley, and Cecil Bilbo. For more information click [here](#) or for questions about this event contact Dan Meneguín at [dmeneguín@sinsinawa.org](mailto:dmeneguín@sinsinawa.org).

## Society of Fire Protection Engineers Philadelphia – Delaware Valley Chapter 2012-2013 Dues Notice Form

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate **by an arrow** where you prefer to receive your meeting notices. It is to our advantage to use Email, if possible.

Business Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of experience/expertise in the Industry \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which Committees you would be interested in participating:

\_\_\_\_ Program      \_\_\_\_ Membership      \_\_\_\_ Coop. with other Societies  
\_\_\_\_ Scholarship      \_\_\_\_ Education      \_\_\_\_ Awards      \_\_\_\_ Historian  
\_\_\_\_ Liaison with Fire Service      \_\_\_\_ Constitution & By Laws  
\_\_\_\_ Nominations      \_\_\_\_ Newsletter/Publicity      \_\_\_\_ Finance & Budget

**SFPE National Member:** Yes or No IF yes, Membership Number & level \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues: \$20.00 \$15.00, if paid by October 9, 2012**  
(Please make your check payable to SFPE Philadelphia-Delaware Valley)

Return this form and check to:

John Spitz

c/o Oliver Sprinkler Co.


501 Fehleley Drive

King of Prussia, PA 19406

jspitz@oliversprinkler.com



# September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Labor Day 	4	5 ASCET SJ chapter Mtg	6	7	8
9	10	11 SFPE Business mtg	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 ASCET Berks chapter	19 ASCET Delaware chapter	20	21	22
23	24	25 ASCET Phila chapter	26	27	28	29
30						

## INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

- Sept 5: NJ ASCET Meeting @ the Collins House in Collingswood, NJ
- Sept 11: SFPE meeting @ Jacobs Engineering. Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday Sept. 7th.
- Sept. 18: Berks County ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Valentino's in Kutztown 6PM
- Sept. 19: Delaware ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Damon's Grill in New Castle, DE
- Sept 26: AFSA Golf Tournament benefiting The Burn Foundation at Old York road Golf Club
- Sept. 25: Phila. ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Michael's Dinner in Bensalem

## PHILA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE

209 Mechanic St.  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
Phone: 215-345-8066 X 22  
Fax: 215-345-9357  
E-mail: jays@tilleyfire.com



### Mission Statement

The Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter purpose is to advance the art and science of fire protection engineering and its allied fields, for the reduction of life and property losses from fire, to maintain high ethical standards on engineering among its members and to foster fire protection education.

Recognition of fire protection engineering as a discrete engineering discipline is a prime goal. Engineering disciplines exist because there is a special body of knowledge based on the fundamentals of mathematics, physics, chemistry, engineering science and economics.

The chapter strives to facilitate sharing of sound engineering experiences and knowledge between its members and the fire protection community in general with an active program of education and scholarship activities.

## DIRECTION TO JACOBS ENGINEERING

### From Central Philadelphia:

Follow the Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) west to Exit 29 (Conshohocken). Stay in the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. **At the next traffic light, turn right onto Elm Street. Go two blocks and turn right onto Ash Street. Three Tower Bridge is 1/8 mile on your right at the end of the street.**

### From Philadelphia International Airport and points south:

North on I-95 to Exit 7. Follow I-476 North (toward Plymouth Meeting) to Exit 16. Follow signs for Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. Continue from bold text above.

### From Allentown and points north:

Take the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike south to Exit 25A (Mid-County Interchange). Follow signs to I-476 South. Continue to Exit 16 (Valley Forge). On the off-ramp, follow signs to Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. Continue from bold text above.

### From New York and Northern New Jersey:

Take the New Jersey Turnpike south to exit 6 (PA Turnpike). Take PA Turnpike west to exit 25A (Mid-County Interchange). Follow signs to I-476 South. Continue to Exit 16 (Valley

Forge). On the off-ramp, follow signs to Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. Continue from bold text above.

### From points west:

On the PA Turnpike, Take exit 24 (King of Prussia). Follow signs for I-76 east (toward Philadelphia). Take exit 28B (Plymouth Meeting). Follow signs for Route 23 Conshohocken. Continue from bold text above.

### Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

**Three Tower Bridge, Two Ash Street – Suite 3000**

**Conshohocken, PA 19482-2074**

