

# Flashpoint

Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter  
Society of Fire Protection Engineers



## November Meeting Notice

**Date:** Tuesday November 11, 2014

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

See Page 6 for directions

**5:30 PM: Fellowship Time**

**6:00 PM: Dinner**

### Dinner Program:

The presentation this month is by Cecil Bilbo.

### **Cloud Ceilings – Update on research and rules development**

Cecil will give you the latest information regarding research involving the use of fire sprinklers above cloud ceilings. We will discuss the 2013 research findings on Cloud Ceilings sponsored by the Fire Protection Research Foundation. As stated in the final report, the goal of this project is to “provide guidance in NFPA 13 for cloud ceilings, ... This project had the goal of determining sprinkler installation requirements for large contiguous clouds.” The final report demonstrates that rules could be developed sprinklers that would allow the omission of fire sprinklers above cloud ceilings in some specific configurations. The NFPA 13 Installation Criteria

Committee (AUT-SSI) is currently developing rules regarding the sections involved in this research. We will discuss the most recent developments from the committee.

The father of three fantastic young adults, he has twenty eight years of experience in the fire sprinkler industry. He was formerly the Director of Technical Services for the National Fire Sprinkler Association. He is now the president of the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology in Champaign, IL.

He is a principal member of several NFPA Committees, including: Standpipes, Sprinkler System Installation, Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance, System Commissioning and Integrated System Testing.

Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday October 10th; and bring an associate from your company!

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

**Reservations: By 12 noon, Friday, November 7, 2014**

### Reserve with:

**Jeff LaSalle by E-mail:**  
**jlalalle@lasalleeng.com**  
**or Fax: (215) 658-1772**❖

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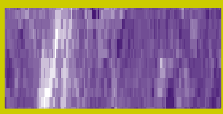
### Special points of interest:

- If you have not paid your dues, go to [www.sfpephiladelphia.org](http://www.sfpephiladelphia.org).
- Check out the article on page 3 that is on the SFPE website by our own Greg Jakubowski.
- There is a picture of Chris Jelenewicz accepting our Gold Award at the SFPE Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA on page 3

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#### 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

This Newsletter is published 9 or 10 times/year (September through June) and received as part of membership of the Chapter.  
Membership Dues are \$30.00 collected annually in the Fall of the Year. For an Application of Membership contact: **Jeff LaSalle**

Email:  
jlasalle@lasalleeng.com

Visit our web site at:  
[www.sfpphiladelphia.org](http://www.sfpphiladelphia.org)

## President's Spark by Mike Venneri PE

Last month we had another great showing for the meeting. I am glad it was not a fire pump rep as we passed around a lot of the equipment that was being discussed? That was a joke for those who could not tell! But seriously, this month should prove to be equally well attended for Cecil and his presentation. I attended one of his classes to see his style and was impressed. I spoke with him after class and told him that for someone of his experience, he could present pretty much whatever he thought would captivate the audience. Not sure what that will be yet, but his style and knowledge are worth the cost of admission. Hope to see all of you there.

Michael P. Venneri, P.E., SET, CFPS

## Delaware Valley Engineer's Week Update

### Engineer of the Year

The area engineering-related technical societies have nominated two candidates for 2015 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year: **William J. Dugary** (Nominated by International Society of Automation (ISA), Philadelphia Section, American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), Delaware Valley Section, and International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers (ISPE), Delaware Valley Chapter) and **Adam K. Fontecchio, PhD** (Nominated by Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), Philadelphia Section).

The election of the 2015 EOY will be Tuesday, **November 11**. In an effort to make the election more convenient for the delegates, we will be using three locations, connected by webex. The main location will be in Center City, with satellite locations in Cherry Hill and King of Prussia.

**All engineering-related technical societies** in the Delaware Valley are invited and encouraged to send delegates to this election. **Only society delegates and past Engineers of the Year elect the next Engineer of the Year**, so we are counting on you to send in your delegates.

[Click here for details](#) on the number of delegates per society (based on members), specific locations, how to register your delegates, and information on each of the candidates. Delegate reservations are due **Friday, November 7**.

### Professional Awards

Professional awards other than EOY are due **November 17**.

**Young Engineer of the Year (YEOY):** The Young Engineer of the Year Award annually recognizes an outstanding engineer 35 years of age and under who has demonstrated leadership and made a recognized contribution to the engineering profession, as well as contribution and participation in charitable, civic, and technical affairs.

**Engineering Hall of Fame (HOF):** The Engineering Hall of Fame Award recognizes an individual, a team of individuals, an engineering project, or a company whose engineering achievements have had a long lasting impact on engineering and/or the public.

**Outstanding Service Awards (OSA):** Two Outstanding Service Awards are available; one for outstanding service to the Community and the other for outstanding service to Engineering.

### Engineer's Week Events

There are three events: Friday February 20, 2015 Awards Luncheon; Tuesday February 25, 2015 Young Engineers Social; Thursday February 26, 2015 Celebration of Engineering Reception. For more information go to <http://www.dvewc.org/events/luncheon/>.

## Preplanning – Greg Jakubowski, P.E., FSFPE

As engineers more finely tune the fire protection and safety features of buildings specific to their construction and occupancy, the importance of effective preplanning for firefighters becomes even more important. This article discusses code requirements for preplanning, how preplans can be used for facilities and occupancies beyond buildings, the best ways to disseminate preplans, how to address change management concerns, using preplans in the field for training purposes, and future developments such as wearable tracking devices and built-in mask displays

[READ MORE](#)

## Membership by Jeff LaSalle PE

At the October meeting, we welcomed the following new members into the Chapter:

Peter Blackton, NICET IV, Owner of Talon Fire & Security  
Joseph Cianfarra, designer with AMC Fire Protection  
Vince Esposito, FPE with GSA  
Hassan Ford, FPE with Jacobs Engineering  
Frank Heirholzer, with JF Heirholzer Mechanical  
Kate Lawler, with Equipment Engineers  
Tim Murray, FPE with the Navy  
Pat Shovlin, with Wheatland Pipe



Congratulations and welcome to each of you. We're glad you decided to join our Society and we welcome your active participation. As a group, you represent the excellent diversity of our Chapter.

Increases in membership will allow us to enjoy the benefits of increased funding for the Chapter and higher attendance at our monthly meetings. For example, last year our average attendance at meetings was 28. In our first two meetings this year, we've had 30 and 31 attendees, respectively. This is a positive trend; greater attendance means more opportunities to hear diverse points of view and for learning from our colleagues. So please keep coming to the meetings and giving us all the benefit of your expertise.

If you have any membership or committee-related questions or comments, please feel free to email me at [jlalalle@LaSalleEng.com](mailto:jlalalle@LaSalleEng.com).

Jeff LaSalle

## SFPE Launches New Logo at Annual Conference

SFPE has officially changed its logo and tagline to convey a more contemporary, bold and global image while maintaining the iconic triangle. The logo, designed by Swirl: Creative Collaboration, will represent the new brand as it continues to attract and bring together the community of fire protection and fire safety engineers, and its allied stakeholders, around the world.

Similarly, the new tagline, Engineering A Fire Safe World, was selected as it communicates a broadening of SFPE's base worldwide, while still maintaining the emphasis on engineering.

"We are excited to launch a new logo and tagline that reflects the evolution and future of the SFPE global brand," said Carl Baldassarra, SFPE President. "The SFPE Board of Directors has spent the better part of 2014 reviewing our strategic direction and plans for the future. Rebranding with a stronger image and more inclusive messaging was needed if we are to better serve the global community and attract the next generation into the profession."

The new logo and tagline were unveiled at SFPE's Conference & Expo in Long Beach, California on October 12. New logos have also been created for all of SFPE's chapters, Corporate 100 and SFPE Foundation and these will be rolled out over the coming weeks.



**"We lavish on animals the love we are afraid to show to people. They might not return it; or worse, they might."**

**Mignon McLaughlin**

## This Month in History: Dance Hall Fire Kills 63 People

On Thursday evening, October 28, 1998, a fire occurred in a nightclub in Gothenburg, Sweden. A Halloween party was being held in the second floor hall, and it was estimated by officials that there were approximately 400 people in attendance. According to personnel from the fire brigade, one of the survivors reported that there were so many people that it was impossible to even dance because people were crowded shoulder to shoulder. The area had an occupancy rating of approximately 150 people.

Once the fire was extinguished, about 20 bodies were found in a small room on the northwest end of the building. It appeared that these victims were attempting to flee the fire and were not able to make it through the door at the northwest end. They then attempted to take refuge in the room, but were overcome by the smoke. One officer reported that the bodies were piled approximately three feet deep in this room. A total of 64 people died in this fire, mostly from smoke inhalation. Their ages ranged from 14 to 20 years old. 150 people were injured. The fire brigade estimated that they rescued 40 to 50 people.

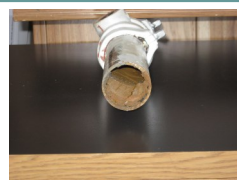
Based on the NFPA's investigation and analysis of this fire, the following significant factors were considered as having contributed to the loss of life and property in this incident:

- Overcrowding
- Lack of a sprinkler system
- Lack of a fire alarm system
- Fire ignition through arson
- Combustible storage in a stairwell

To read the full report [Download this Gothenburg, Sweden report.](#)  
Reproduced from the NFPA website

## Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home. For more safety tips for friends and family, go to the [NFPA website.](#)



**Why we do Internal inspections!**

**Don't Forget to vote on Tuesday Nov. 4th!**

# November 2014

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



						1
2	3	4 Elec- tion Day	5 ASCET SJ chap- ter Mtg	6	7	8
9	10	11 SFPE Meeting	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 Thanks- giving	28	29
30						

## November Events

- Nov 4: Don't forget to get out and vote!
- Nov 5: NJ ASCET Meeting @ the Collins House in Collingswood, NJ
- Nov 11: SFPE meeting @ Jacobs Engineering. Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday Sept. 5th.
- Nov 18: Berks County ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Valentino's in Kutztown 6PM
- Nov 19: Delaware ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Charcoal Pit on Kirkwood Highway in Wilmington
- Nov 25: Phila. ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Michael's Dinner in Bensalem

**"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone."**

[Ronald Reagan](#)



## Phila-Delaware Valley SFPE

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WE'RE ON THE WEB:  
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PHIA.ORG

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## 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.

## Directions 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.  
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