



Flashpoint



February Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday February 10, 2015

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

5:30 PM: Fellowship Time

6:00 PM: Dinner

Dinner Program:

The program this month is presented by Jeff Merwin of Potter Signal Company. Jeff will discuss and help us identify common causes of corrosion and give us an understanding of the economic impact of it on sprinkler systems. He will review the types of corrosion and the code requirements pertaining to corrosion. We will learn about nitrogen in sprinkler systems, what ongoing research and testing is being done, and finally discuss how to control corrosion.

Jeff is the director of business develop-

ment at Potter Signal. He is an electrical engineer who has designed products, led product groups, and directed research and development during his 19 years at Potter. He is a member of the National Fire Protection Association, National Association of Corrosion Engineers, and various safety standards committees.

Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday February 6, 2015; and bring an associate from your company!

Cost: \$25.00 for dinner & program

Reservations: By 12 noon, Friday, February 6, 2015

Reserve with:

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



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Special points of interest:

- If you have not paid your dues this year, please download the form from our website and send it to John Spitz.
- Do you want to advertise in this newsletter? A 1/2 page ad in the back is \$35. Please contact me if you are interested.

Future City Philadelphia Winners

The winner of this year's competition was Queen of Angels Regional Catholic School in Willow grove, PA. The Mater Dei School of Lansdale won the Triad Fire Protection Award; Orchard Valley Middle School of Sewell, NJ won the NFSA Award; and the Springfield Township Middle School of Oreland, PA won the SFPE Award. Thanks to all that helped.



Queen of Angels School

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.sfpephiladelphia.org

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

President's Spark by Mike Venneri

Last month was a great turn out for the meeting, which is becoming the "norm" anymore. Our thanks again to Jack for his interesting presentation and the work done to try to validate the historical fire event at Great Adventure. Like similar presentations, we not only learned what was fact, but also learned that we are required to make intelligent estimates in our industry for all sorts of conditions and conclusions. Obviously we cannot change the past, but we can sure change the future in regards to Life Safety. I think that is why we are all here for the meetings to have an impact on the future. Anyway, looking forward to seeing everyone again next month.

Mike Venneri PE

14,461 NFPA definitions - for free!

The new edition of the NFPA Glossary of Terms (GOT) has been published and is available for FREE online. Visit www.nfpa.org/got to download your copy. The GOT is a list of the defined terms in all of NFPA's published codes, standards, guides and recommended practices. The 14,461 terms are listed alphabetically and assembled into a free PDF available on the NFPA website. The document is used in a number of ways. It helps NFPA Technical Committees who are looking to define new terms or compare existing terms. It also helps members of the public who are interested in learning about how NFPA documents define specific terms. The Glossary of Terms Advisory Committee helps regulate the number of unnecessary duplicate definitions to try and make the GOT easier to use.

Shovel Smart



Shoveling snow is a pain in the neck, but it can also result in a pain in the back and heart. Here are some suggestions for smart shoveling!

1. **Warm up:** As with any form of strenuous exercise, you need to warm up your body before taking on the shoveling of heavy snow.
2. **Use the right Shovel:** Ergonomics is not just for working in the office. Buy the right shovel.
3. **Bend the right Body Part:** Always bend at the knees, not the back.
4. **Take Breaks:** If you are in good shape, take a break every 15 minutes. If you are not so fit, stop every 5 minutes. And if you feel any chest pain or shortness of breath, STOP!
5. **Pay Someone:** Hire a neighborhood kid. It won't cost much and will save you the strain.

Fire Marshal shares Personal Brush with Fire

Fire can happen to anyone—just ask New Milford, Connecticut, Fire Marshal Karen Facey. Facey's powerful account of her own recent brush with fire can be found in the ["Perspectives"](#) feature in the January/February issue of [NFPA Journal](#).

Fire "doesn't care where you live, how much money you make, how much you care about safety, or what you do for a living—even if you're a fire marshal," Facey writes in her personal account. "I had certainly felt human, and fallible, when I realized my kitchen was on fire; in that moment, I was less a highly trained fire professional than a homeowner faced with a critical split-second decision."

After spending a recent Saturday driving her two teenage children more than 300 miles to their various events, Facey dropped the kids off at their father's house and set to work melting some wax on the stove in preparation for a candle-making project. Tired at the end of a long day, she went to bed without properly turning off the stove and woke to smoke alarms blaring and "a column of flame shooting from the stovetop, 50 feet from me," she writes. She was able to put the fire out with water, but her embarrassment was palpable, especially when sharing the story the next day at a training for volunteer firefighters.

"The bottom line is that working smoke alarms saved my home, and there is a strong likelihood that they saved my life and the lives of my pets," Facey writes. "Fire and public safety professionals should use my story to help urge their audiences to change their smoke alarm batteries immediately and test them monthly. ... If this message can encourage or cause one person to change their behavior, then it is worth every iota of embarrassment and judgment coming my way."

To read Facey's [personal story](#), check out the latest issue of [NFPA Journal](#).

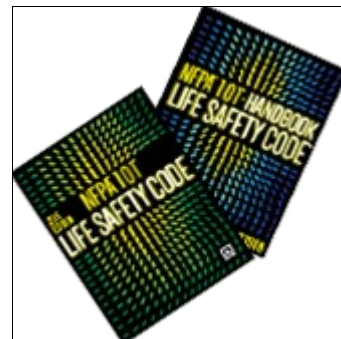
"Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not."

Oprah Winfrey



2015 NFPA 101® Life Safety Code® Essentials Self-Guided Online Course Series

This all-new interactive series helps you navigate and implement NFPA 101: Life Safety Code, the single most widely used source for strategies to protect people based on building construction, protection, and occupancy features. NFPA 101 is the only Code that addresses occupant safety in new and existing buildings. Learn about fundamental concepts for a variety of occupancies through six modules featuring highly interactive exercises and job aids. This self-paced, flexible program is ideal for anyone concerned with life safety compliance—including facility managers, Authorities Having Jurisdiction, safety directors, contractors, architects, and engineers. [Click Here](#) to view more information.





Chris Jelenewicz Selected as UMD Distinguished Alumni

We are pleased to share that Chris Jelenewicz, SFPE's Senior Manager for Engineering Practice, has been selected to be among the initial ten alumni to be recognized as Distinguished Alumni by the University of Maryland's Department's Board of Visitors. Distinguished Alumni are those alumni who have made a significant achievements in the field or who have made significant contributions to the Department. Chris is a member of the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter of the SFPE also.

Chris will be formally recognized at the UMD alumni dinner held this June. Please join us in congratulating Chris on his many achievements and contributions in the field of fire protection engineering. We are fortunate to have Chris leading the technical activities for the Society and we know UMD couldn't have selected a more deserving individual.

Just a quick reminder to forward any milestones you wish to share with your colleagues in the Flashpoint to Jeff LaSalle at jlalalle@LaSalleEng.com.

NFPA Conference in Chicago June 22—25

The scholarship committee is looking for applicants for this year. For a copy of the application, go to our website at www.sfpphiladelphia.org. Any questions, contact Dave Kriebel at dave.kriebel@gsa.gov

THE YEAR'S MOST IMPORTANT EVENT for the electrical, fire, and building safety industries will be held June 22 to 25 at McCormick Place in Chicago, Illinois. Join NFPA experts and thousands of industry professionals as they gather for the 2015 NFPA Conference & Expo® (C&E), widely regarded as the most comprehensive event in the industry. The event combines an unrivaled educational conference with an expo featuring more than 350 booths, as well as the two-day NFPA Technical Meeting, also known as the Tech Session. It's an ideal opportunity to rub elbows with industry innovators, bend the ears of our expert instructors, and meet others who are facing the same issues and challenges you are.

We're excited about the changes we've made to this year's Conference, including the introduction of new, in-depth discussions on changes being made to key codes and standards.

These events will feature the technical experts who know not only what changes are being made, but also why they are being made and what effect they'll have on you. NFPA's Matt Klaus will moderate a panel discussion on [NFPA 13, Installation of Sprinkler Systems](#), and industry expert Robert Schifiliti will moderate a panel discussion on [NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code](#). To make sure that all the important information is covered, each panel will offer a three-part presentation with plenty of time for you to ask questions.

For more information go to www.NFPA.org.



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& EXPO**
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February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 ASCET SJ chapter Mtg	5	6	7
8	9	10 SFPE Meeting	11	12	13	14 Happy Val- entine's Day!
15	16	17 ASCET Berks chap- ter	18 ASCET Delaware chapter	19	20	21
22	23	24 ASCET Delaware chapter	25	26	27	28

February Events

- Feb 4: NJ ASCET Meeting @ the Collins House in Collingswood, NJ
- Feb 10: SFPE meeting @ Jacobs Engineering. Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday Feb. 6th
- Feb 17: Berks County ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Valentino's in Kutztown 6PM
- Feb 18: Delaware ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Charcoal Pit on Kirkwood Highway in Wilmington
- Feb 24: Phila. ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Michael's Dinner in Bensalem



What do you do with old sprinklers? At the Free Will Brewery in Perkasié, when they retrofitted the sprinkler system, They cleaned up the old ones and used them for a coat rack!

**PHILA-DELAWARE VALLEY
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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.