



# Flashpoint

## May Business Meeting & Social

**Date:** Tuesday May 10, 2016

**Place:** Great American Pub 123 Fayette St. Conshohocken, PA

**5:30 PM: Fellowship Time**

**6:30 PM: Dinner**

**Dinner Program:**

**Dinner Program:** Annual Business Award Social

**Cost:** \$35.00; Spouse/Guest included for free

**Reservations:** By 12 noon, *Thurs, May 5, 2016*

**Reserve with: Lou Annas by E-mail: [lannas@bearindustries.com](mailto:lannas@bearindustries.com) or Fax: (302) 368-9217**

This is our annual business meeting where we will be handing out awards. We will also have election of officers.

**\*\*PLEASE, NOTE RESERVATION DEADLINE! \*\***



VOLUME 21 ISSUE 9

May 2016

### Special points of interest:

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
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## Election of Officers for 2016-2017

The Nominating Committee has put forward the following slate of officers:

**President:** Robert Moser PE

**1st Vice President:** Jeff LaSalle PE

**2nd Vice President:** Lou Annas

**Secretary:** Dyllon Slatcher

**Asst. Secretary:** Dave Kriebel, PE

**Treasurer:** John Spitz

**Directors 2015-2017:** Kate Lawler & Gerry Forstater PE

**Directors 2016-2017:** Steve Oliver PE & Ben Young

Elections are held at the annual meeting on May 10, 2016. The chairman of the nominating committee is Phil Scanyo. Since no additions to the nominations were submitted to the secretary by the appointed time, the slate of officers stands as presented in April.

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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](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 \$30.00 collected annually in the Fall of the Year. For an Application of Membership contact: **Jeff LaSalle**  
Email: [jlalle@lasalleeng.com](mailto:jlalle@lasalleeng.com)

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

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

## PA Uniform Construction Code Updates

The codes applicable to work for which a construction permit is sought on or after January 1, 2016 in Pennsylvania, are the 2009 International Codes issued by the International Code Council (ICC), and certain provisions from the 2015 International Codes. After April 16, 2016, Chapter 11 and Appendix E of the 2015 International Building Code and the accessibility provisions of the 2015 International Existing Building Code are applicable. Only these codes as first published and their errata are applicable in Pennsylvania. For further information about the codes and standards adopted, [click here](#).

If you would like to purchase a code update for the state of Pennsylvania, [click here](#).

## Mark Your Calendar and Save the Date

We invite you to join your colleagues and other fire protection industry professionals as we convene for our 2016 Conference & Expo at the Marriott City Center in Denver, CO, September 25-30, 2016. This annual event is THE source for technical information and technology for fire protection engineers, fire safety engineers, fire engineers and allied professionals. Don't forget to check back often as registration is set to open in May.



## Scholarship Recipients Announced

At the March Board of Directors meeting four scholarships were awarded. These scholarships will be handed out at the May business meeting by Dave Kriebel, chairman of the Scholarship Committee. The recipients are: Rachel Lilienfeld of Margate City NJ, a Senior at The University of Maryland; Michelle Smith of Brigantine, NJ, a Sophomore at The University of Maryland; Matthew Fegley of Telford, PA, a Senior at WPI; and Allison Lowe of Laurel, DE, a Sophomore at Eastern Kentucky University and a graduate of Del Tech.

Rachel was a recipient of a scholarship last year also.

## The Design Fire: Selecting Fire Characteristics for a CFD Model *By David Stacy and Adam Edwards*

One of the most valued services fire protection engineering consultants can provide a client is the use of fire modeling as part of a performance-based design (PBD) approach. The PBD approach can save valuable project budget as well as provide a more complete design that provides an equivalent, if not an enhanced, level of safety for occupants in a building. Although fire modeling and PBD have been around for years, its potential benefits and growing acceptance among jurisdictions has resulted in a continuous expansion of its use. As a result, modeling spaces for the purpose of evaluating tenability is becoming common practice in the design industry. As with all subject matter experts, fire protection engineers serve as an asset to design teams by being able to model an atrium, mall or smoke protected seating area using probable fire scenarios and analyze tenability based on performance metrics agreed upon by the project stakeholders and the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). That being said, with the increasing application of such models, the importance of properly characterizing fire scenarios—often referred to as design fires—in these analyses has never been more critical. [Read more...](#)

## Ambient Attention *by Wayne D Moore*

THE AMBIENT CONDITIONS PRESENT in industrial occupancies present challenges for the placement of detection devices and audible notification appliances for a fire alarm system. The 2016 edition of [NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code](#), states the limits imposed on these devices based on ambient conditions, and designers must carefully consider those conditions when choosing components for a fire alarm system intended to protect an industrial space.

Those spaces can include conditions that can affect detector operation or initiate false alarms: mechanical vibration, electrical interference, process smoke, moisture, particulates, fumes, noise, and radiation, to name a few. Designers must investigate any of these sources of possible degradation and choose other detectors or mitigate the potential for smoke detector failure. While it might not be possible to completely isolate environmental factors, an awareness of these factors during system layout and design can significantly improve detector performance. To read more, [click here](#).

## How to Determine Commodity Classification

So you think you can determine the exact commodity classification for a specific packaged arrangement of materials using your knowledge of the commodity classification definitions provided by NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*? Well, think again. No, you can't. It's just not that easy. The heat release rate associated with the burning of a specific arrangement of packaged materials is an extremely complex occurrence involving a multitude of influences, including but not limited to, the materials involved, including the stored materials as well as the packaging; the quantity of each of the materials; the relative position of the materials within the storage array to the advancing flame front; the physical configuration of the materials and available paths for air flow and fire spread within the array; and the list goes on. This doesn't even consider that the commodity classification is also impacted by the ability, or lack thereof, of the discharging water from the operating sprinklers to affect the heat release rate. [Read more](#)

From *Sprinkler Age*.

"If you don't know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else."  
Yogi Berra

### Phillies Trivia:

When Richie Ashburn was signed by the Phillies for the minor leagues, what position did he play?

*Answer on page 5*

# GOLF OUTING

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2016



**WESTOVER COUNTRY CLUB**

401 S. SCHUYLKILL AVENUE  
JEFFERSONVILLE PA. 19403



Join us, with the National Fire Sprinkler Association, at the tenth Annual Fireman's Hall Museum Golf Outing.

**Fee: \$145 per person**

Includes green fees, cart, box lunch, cocktail hour, dinner, and prizes

**Box lunch and registration at 11:00 a.m.**

**Shotgun starts at 12:00 noon**

**Cocktails and Dinner Starting at 5:00 p.m.**



To make reservations or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, contact, **Carol Smith**, at **609-320-1417** or **pfidhc@firemanshallmuseum.org**  
Register online at **www.firemanshallstore.com**

Philadelphia Fireman's Hall Museum is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization. In accordance with IRS guidelines, the fair market value for attendance at the 2016 Golf Outing has been set at \$110 per person. Any amount contributed above that value is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

The official registration and financial information of the Philadelphia Fire Department Historical Corporation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by call toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 ASCET SJ chapter Mtg	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10 SFPE Meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 ASCET Berks chapter	18 ASCET Delaware chapter & AFAA Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31 ASCET Phila chapter Also Firemen's Golf Outing				

## Monthly Events

- May 4: NJ ASCET Meeting @ the Collins House in Collingswood, NJ
- May 5: Reservation deadline for Annual Business meeting
- May 8: Mother's Day.
- May 10: SFPE meeting @ Great American Pub in Conshohocken 6PM
- May 17: Berks County ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Valentino's in Kutztown 6PM
- May 18: Delaware ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Charcoal Pit on Kirkwood Highway in Wilmington
- May 18: AFAA Meeting @ Delaware County Fire training Center
- May 30: Memorial Day.
- May 31: Phila. ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Pub 2900 at 2900 Street Road Bensalem, PA

### Phillies Trivia

#### Answer:

When Richie Ashburn was signed by the Phillies in 1945 to play his first season, he was signed as a catcher!



## Phila-Delaware Valley SFPE

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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.

## Historic Fires: fire in board and care facility claims eight lives

On April 27, 1998, a fire in an occupied board and care facility in Arlington, Washington killed eight of the building's 32 residents. The facility was originally built as a hospital but had undergone several renovations and changes in usage over the years, and was not equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system. A local fire alarm system was installed with hardwired, AC powered smoke detectors and heat detectors in corridors and common areas. There were also manual pull stations next to the exterior exit doors.

The fire was determined to be incendiary in nature, and is believed to have begun when a resident ignited her bedding material with either a lighter or matches. Based on NFPA's investigation and analysis, the following were significant factors contributing to the loss of life in this incident.

- Lack of an automatic fire sprinkler system
- Lack of system smoke detectors in the room of origin
- An open door in the room of origin
- Additional open doors

NFPA members can read the [full investigation report](#), and all site visitors can read a [summary of the investigation](#).

*From the NFPA website*