



# FLASHPOINT NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE

## NOVEMBER MEETING

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2018

COST: \$30.00 FOR DINNER AND PROGRAM

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 3  
NOVEMBER 2018

LOCATION:

JACOBS ENGINEERING  
THREE TOWER BRIDGE, SUITE 3000  
CONSHOHOCKEN, PA

RESERVATIONS BY: 12:00 NOON  
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2018

PLEASE RSVP ONLINE AT THE LINK  
BELOW!

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**Special points of interest:**

- BRING A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE TO THE NEXT MEETING!

TIME:

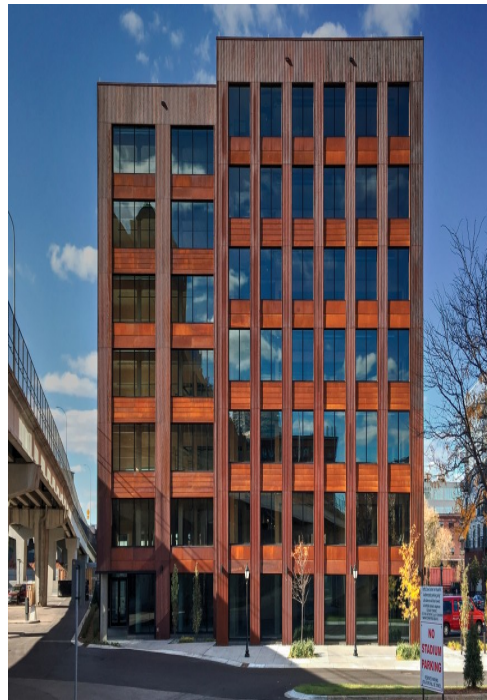
FELLOWSHIP: 5:30PM

DINNER: 6:00PM

<https://goo.gl/forms/rk6PMB11e037xC2C3>

The November presentation will be on  
“Tall Mass Timber Buildings-Changing the Building Code”

In early 2016, the ICC Board of Directors approved the creation of an ad hoc committee to explore the building science of tall wood buildings with the scope being to investigate the feasibility of and take action to develop code changes for tall wood buildings. Since that time, the Tall Wood Building (TWB) Ad Hoc Committee has reviewed voluminous materials regarding tall wood buildings, including results of various testing around the world, as well as studies domestically in support of the TWB charge to conduct a thorough review of the science of tall wood.



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President's Message

November 2018 Flashpoint

Last week I attended the SFPE Conference and Expo in Nashville. On Sunday I participated in the Chapter Leadership Forum and accepted our Award for Chapter Excellence. The forum was an opportunity to meet other chapter leaders from around the world and to participate in a workshop to identify non-technical challenges confronting local chapters and the international organization and to develop some strategies for dealing with these challenges. Issues included fund-raising, volunteerism, communications, marketing, and others.



We also received feedback from SFPE based on a survey conducted within the past year. Responses to a question about whether the individual would promote their chapter stood out to me. Of the respondents, 50% said they would actively promote their chapter; 29% said they were passive about their chapter (I view this as indifference); and 21% said they had a negative view of their Chapter.

These numbers are a bit disappointing. I don't know whether they are representative of our chapter – I sure hope they are not! In any case, one immediate reaction I have is to encourage anyone in the Philadelphia-Delaware Valley chapter to email me directly ([jlalalle@LaSalleEng.com](mailto:jlalalle@LaSalleEng.com)) with any complaints, concerns, or recommendations for how to make our Chapter more responsive to your needs.

Our Chapter exists to assist our members in advancing their knowledge base and improving the discipline. If we are not doing this to your satisfaction the only way to improve is to perform a self-evaluation and to hear from our members directly. Any and all comments will be treated in complete confidence.

Thanks for your dedication to our profession.

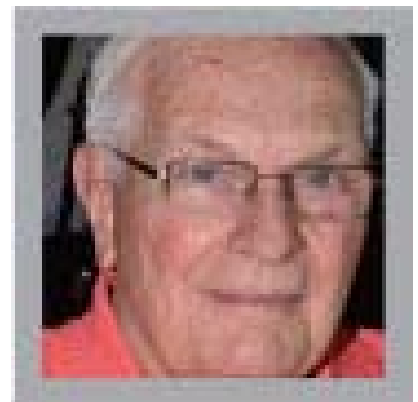
Yours in fire safety,

Jeff LaSalle

## Words from our own John Kampmeyer P.E. after being named an SFPE Fellow!

Professionally, I am thankful for a 56-year professional career that was very rewarding. My decision to go into engineering was helped by my father who was a banker. He told me to go into anything I wanted other than business. I said I was good at math and science so maybe I'd go into engineering. He said, "Good. They eat!" With that inauspicious beginning, I entered the engineering field.

Several years ago, Future City had a video with a young lady saying, "I wanted to become a lawyer, but now I want to be an engineer. They have fun!" When I look back on my 56 years, it was fun. I was able to work in a profession I enjoyed and felt that I was making a meaningful contribution.



# Fire Sprinkler Incentives for Developers: A Win-Win

In a national survey of homebuilders and developers, 55% said they would be interested in building homes with fire sprinklers if they were offered incentives, yet only 6% had ever been offered them. The survey was conducted by HanleyWood for the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC.)

Trade-ups are locally negotiated incentives that authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) offer to developers in exchange for improving life safety by installing fire sprinklers. A companion fire-service survey conducted by FireHouse found that less than half of American fire-department personnel know about the incentives. A typical single-family development has on average 50 homes, so it's easy to see the life-safety promise in this approach.

Ninety-five percent of fire department personnel say they support home sprinklers as a method to increase protection of new houses. Strong support for sprinklers notwithstanding, 92% of respondents work in jurisdictions that do not currently offer any incentives to encourage homebuilders or developers to install fire sprinklers when they build.

The low percentage of incentive offers may be attributed to confusion about fire-sprinkler requirements. The survey showed that 55% of fire-service personnel were not aware that jurisdictions without home fire-sprinkler requirements could offer incentives to builders and developers.

Another factor may be the role AHJs play during the planning process. According to the survey, only 41% of fire departments participate in planning and zoning board meetings. When they do, that participation may come too late, after the pre-application process.

If you want to read more into the above article follow the link!

<https://www.iafc.org/on-scene/on-scene-article/fire-sprinkler-incentives-for-developers-a-win-win>

## Learning opportunity!

The PenJerDel Chapter of the National Fire Sprinkler Association is presenting a **FREE** training session entitled "Rough and Final Inspection of Fire Sprinklers" at the Montgomery County Fire Academy on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Attendees will receive 6.5 CEU's awarded through the Montgomery County Fire Academy. This free program will include a continental breakfast, lunch, and hand-outs. Breakfast is at 8:00 am and class runs from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. For more information or to sign up, contact Frank Ellis at [Ellis@nfsa.org](mailto:Ellis@nfsa.org) or 866.226.6006.

# November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 NJ ASCET Meeting	8	9	10
11	12	13 Phila-DelVal SFPE Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Berks County ASCET meeting	21 Delaware ASCET meeting	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27 Philadel-phia ASCET meeting	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER 7: NEW JERSEY ASCET MEETING

NOVEMBER 13: PHILADELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE MEETING

NOVEMBER 20: BERKS COUNTY ASCET MEETING

NOVEMBER 21: DELAWARE ASCET MEETING

NOVEMBER 22: THANKSGIVING

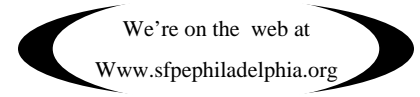
NOVEMBER 27: PHILADELPHIA ASCET MEETING

## PHILA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE



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### MISSION STATEMENT

*The Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter purpose is to advance the science and practice of fire protection engineering and its allied fields, to maintain a high ethical standard among its members and to foster fire protection engineering 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.*

## PICTURES FROM THE NATIONAL SFPE CONFERENCE



The Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter Received the Silver Award-  
for Chapter Excellence



John Kampmeyer receiving his Fellowship Award.



All the members that were awarded  
Fellow this year!