

# FLASHPOINT

## Special points of interest:

- \* Pay your 2019-2020 dues!
- \* Spring Seminar & Tradeshow Information
- \* ACE Application Info
- \* 2020/2021 Nomination of Officers

## UPCOMING MEETING INFORMATION:

**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020

**Place:** Oliver Fire Protection & Security  
420 Feheley Drive Suite A  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

**5:30 PM:** Fellowship Time

**6:00 PM:** Program

**Program:** SFPE National presented by Victoria Valentine

**Dinner will be provided**

**Cost:** \$30.00 (cash or checks payable to Philadelphia-Delaware Valley SFPE)

**Reservations:** By 12:00 Noon Friday, March 6, 2020

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## **RSVP ONLINE AT:**

<https://forms.gle/s52CByDgBxK8bLuEA>

## **Officers for 2019-2020**

The officers elected at the May 2019 business meeting are as follows:

**President:** Steve Oliver

**1st Vice President:** Jack Fairchild

**2nd Vice President:** Ryan Schartel

**Secretary:** Tim Murray

**Asst. Secretary:** Phil Kerschner

**Treasurer:** John Spitz

**Directors 2019-2021:** Frank Ellis, Josh Popek

**Directors 2018-2020:** Jay Stough, Ben Young

## President's Spark by Steve Oliver, PE, MBA

### Award for Chapter Excellence Application

Applications for the SFPE ACE (Award for Chapter Excellence) are being prepared and due back to SFPE nationals by April 3, 2020. Each SFPE chapter is required to submit an evaluation per the Standing Rules. Potential awards are Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Our own Philadelphia Delaware Valley chapter was awarded the Gold award in 2019. Below are the awards that we've received over the last 15 years;

2005- GOLD	2010-	2015-
2006- GOLD	2011- GOLD	2016- SILVER
2007- SILVER	2012- GOLD	2017-
2008- SILVER	2013-	2018- SILVER
2009- SILVER	2014- GOLD	2019-GOLD

Having been to the national SFPE event, I can tell you with assurance that we have one of the strongest chapters. That being said, SFPE is a group of engineers, and I am certain they won't be giving out chapter awards based on how good we think we are; they will be sticking to the chapter evaluation form and the points system within it. The evaluation form is a criteria based excel document, so fairly predictable and transparent. It is based on outreach of the entire chapter- all members. I have gone through the criteria, and picked out areas that we did not get full points last year in hope that we can do better this year. If you can help with any of the below items, please email our Secretary, Tim Murray ([dvsfpe@gmail.com](mailto:dvsfpe@gmail.com)), and myself ([soliver@oliverfps.com](mailto:soliver@oliverfps.com)).

- 1) Did your chapter recruit a new member to join the SFPE Corporate 100 Partners Program? Some companies that are already in this group are AGF, JCI, Jensen Hughes. Please reach out if you are interested in joining. Amongst other things, you get your name on the SFPE national website! Julie Gordon is the contact for this; [jgordon@sfpe.org](mailto:jgordon@sfpe.org)
- 2) Did your chapter contact the local media regarding recognition of fire protection engineering? Please reach out if you are interested in doing this. It would be nice if the media could attend our Trade show on April 16.
- 3) Did your chapter participate in any regional SFPE activities (e.g. meet with other SFPE chapters if applicable in your country, have ongoing communication with other chapters locally or internationally, etc.)? Please reach out if you've been in touch with other chapters or are willing to attend another chapter's meeting this month.

### Movie Screening of "Six Locked Doors"

SFPE Philly Del Val member Tony Ordile came across a video that documents the 1942 nightclub fire in Boston, MA that killed close to 500 people. He has been in contact with the film company about arranging a screening (or multiple) for SFPE, fire service, and anyone interested. Once we have more details and a definitive time and location, we will send notice to the membership. You can view the trailer for the movie on their website, [www.sixlockeddoors.com](http://www.sixlockeddoors.com).

"Six Locked Doors explores the events leading up to the deadliest nightclub fire in American history on November 28, 1942, at the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, Massachusetts. With double the allowed occupants, locked doors, flammable materials, and other deadly conditions, the fire left 492 people dead. Through interviews with survivors who have never before spoken on camera and an extensive archive collection of photos, and unreleased footage the film explores how corruption, greed and a former Jewish, gangster-run speakeasy led to an unimaginable tragedy."

### April 16<sup>th</sup> Trade Show and Seminar

We are quickly approaching our trade show and seminar. Vendor 'slots' are filled. Participant slots are filling quickly. Register today to ensure your attendance.

-Steve

#### 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:

**Tim Murray**

Information for publication can be submitted to:

**[dvsfpe@gmail.com](mailto:dvsfpe@gmail.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.

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. ❖

# ***Spring Seminar & Trade Show***

***April 16, 2020***

***Sheraton – Valley Forge***

***480 North Gulph Road***

***King of Prussia, PA 19406***



The format of the event will allow participants to mingle with vendors before and in between presentations in a Trade Show setting where vendors will showcase their products and have representatives to field any questions you may have. There will be a total of 11 presentations provided throughout the day. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose which topics they are interested in and attend up to 5 sessions during the seminar along with the Key Note presentation.

Our Key Note Speaker this year is, **Stephen Kerber** from UL presenting:

***“The Evolution of the Residential Fire Environment”.***

PDH credits will be offered. Cost to attend is \$100.00 and includes all sessions, breakfast & lunch.

## **Scheduled Topics**

***Fire Protection Engineering Ethics & Professional Practice***

***Flame & Gas Detection System Technologies & Best Practice***

***Video Analytics***

***VacTec –Vacuum Fire Protection Systems***

***Fire Safety Aspects of Energy Storage Systems***

***City of Phila Update on Enforcement of Smoke Control Systems***

***Hypoxic Air Systems***

***Hot Topics in the Sprinkler Industry***

***Protection of Mini-Load ASRS Arrangements***

***Foam Concentrates and the Change to Fluorine Free***



**Registration & Breakfast 7am to 8 am**

**Presentations begin at 8 am**

**Event will conclude by 5 pm.**

***Reserve your spot online today, space is limited!***

***Please use the link below to sign up!***

***<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-attendee-registration-sfpe-pdv-spring-seminar-tickets-90565573067>***

***Proceeds benefit our Chapter's Scholarship Fund***



## 2020 Spring Seminar & Trade Show

### Topics / Speaker

**Keynote – Stephen Kerber, UL *The Evolution of the Residential Fire Environment***

The fire problem continues to evolve and offers new challenges. This presentation will share the numerous evolutions that have taken place in homes and how they compound to impact fire safety. Research will be shared that shows this impact and what can be done to intervene.

**Hot Topics in the Fire Sprinkler Industry Kevin Hall, NFSA**

This presentation will discuss hot topics, new developments, and a highlight of technical questions answered by NFSA over the past year involving the products and installation/design criteria for fire sprinklers and other related systems for water-based fire protection.

**Video Analytics Rick Seidel, Fike**

Video Analytics (VID) has grown significantly since its first introduction into the fire protection industry in 2008. This presentation begins with an overview of how the VID technology detects smoke, flame, reflected flame, oil mist, and motion, in multiple applications. New technology also allows the video analytics to work with Triple IR Flame Detectors and Thermal Imaging Detection devices.

**Fire Protection Engineering Ethics and Professional Practice Art Schwartz**

This presentation will focus on fire protection engineering ethics principles and concepts, foundations of the various professional and technical society codes of ethics, including such topics as protection of the public health safety and welfare, professional competency, objectivity, truthfulness, confidentiality, conflicts of interests and emerging issues/challenges affecting the practice of engineering. Examples of ethical dilemmas will be reviewed and discussed.

**Flame & Gas Detection System Technologies and Best Practices – Dave Opheim, MSA Safety.**

Achieving optimal & cost-effective onsite protection using flame & gas detection systems remains dependent upon understanding the relative strengths & limitations of the available technologies, proper application hazard analysis, and willingness to update standard work practices to leverage new technologies & diagnostic capabilities. This seminar will address these along with a brief summary of pertinent Factory Mutual (FM) Approval Standard performance requirements.

**City of Philadelphia Update on Enforcement of Smoke Control System Periodic Testing****Elizabeth Baldwin**

The City of Philadelphia passed legislation relating to the maintenance and testing of dampers and smoke control system in February 2019. The law requires periodic inspection and certification of dampers in high-rise buildings, special assemblies, and hospitals in accordance with NFPA 80 and annual inspection of smoke control systems in accordance with NFPA 105. In this session, we will review:

- 1) Maintenance and testing requirements outlined in NFPA 80 and NFPA 105.
- 2) Inspector qualifications and exceptions established under the law.
- 3) The Department of Licenses and Inspections implementation and enforcement plan.

**Fire Safety Aspects of Energy Storage Systems – Bruce Johnson, UL**

Energy storage systems (ESS) are showing up in ever increasing numbers, which creates challenges for fire code officials who must address a new generation of fire safety hazards. These systems include lithium-ion stationary battery systems, electrical capacitor systems, other storage technologies, and systems that integrate with photovoltaic panels. This class provides an overview of these systems, associated hazards and mitigation strategies. The class will provide a brief overview covering new model code requirements for ESS in the International Fire Code (IFC) and International Residential Code (IRC), the new NFPA 855 ESS standard and UL 9540 and IL 9540A (ESS full-scale fire test standard).

**Hypoxic Air Systems - Florian Buchner, Wagner USA**

The presentation will focus on the usage and benefits of Oxygen Reduction Systems in automated cold storage facilities. We will begin with describing the principles of oxygen reduction and then take a deeper look using a case study of WAGNER and NewCold of a facility in Tacoma, WA. This is accomplished by the combination of a low oxygen environment and automated processes, which leads to reduced energy costs, reduced fire risks, reduced dead space within the building, and reduced land use. We will also discuss current standards for low oxygen systems and OSHA standards.

**Protection of Mini-Load ASRS Arrangements.- Michelle Blanchet, FM Global's Operations Chief Engineer**

Material handling in warehouse facilities is increasingly changing from traditional pallet loads in storage racks to individual parts maintained in automated storage and retrieval systems (ASRS) in an effort to maximize warehouse storage capacity. A “mini-load” ASRS arrangement is a common storage system found in general warehousing where individual parts are maintained in either plastic totes or plastic trays and placed in a storage array having closely spaced rack uprights as well as low tier heights where the tote containers and/or trays are supported on angle irons.

This presentation will address what mini-load ASRS arrangements are, why they are a unique fire challenge, recent full-scale fire testing conducted on them and the subsequent design

guidelines outlined in FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 8-34, Automatic Storage and Retrieval Systems, as a result of the full-scale testing.

**Foam Concentrates and the Change to Fluorine Free - Jon Walker of National Foam**

Foam Concentrates have undergone a major overhaul over the past decade and are continuing to improve by eliminating the harmful chemicals and have developed into more environmentally responsible chemistry. The presentation will include a history of foam concentrates and the legislations that have changed the chemistries to the current fluorine free formulation. I will discuss the changes required for system upgrades and what it will take to upgrade from older chemistries to the fluorine free versions. Most importantly the listings and approvals, the testing of the Fluorine Free, and will the product work.

**VACTEC – Vacuum Fire Protection Systems – Mike Nagy, FireFlex**

“VACTEC” Integrated Systems, is a **New Vacuum Fire Protection System**, for dry & pre-action applications. It uses **Negative Pressure** in the dry piping network, providing corrosion mitigation, elimination of ice plugs, mitigation of ice plugs, easy to operate and low maintenance.

# Free Training Offered by NFSA

## NFSA PenJerDel Chapter Training

### 2020 Free Educational Training Program - Learn from the Professionals!

The PenJerDel Chapter of the NFSA is pleased to announce the training schedule for 2020. Attendees will receive 6.5 CEU's awarded through the Montgomery County Fire Academy. These **free** programs will include a continental breakfast, lunch, and hand-outs. Space is limited, and we expect these classes to fill-up quickly.

**Breakfast is at 8:00 am and class begins at 8:30 am.**

For more information or to sign up, there are several options available:

Visit our website: <https://njfsab.org/training-penjerdel-chapter/>

Call our office: 866.226.6006

E-mail Frank Ellis: [Ellis@nfsa.org](mailto:Ellis@nfsa.org)

Standpipe Systems for Fire Protection

Thursday, March 19th, 2020

Coordinating NFPA 25 & 72 Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Requirements

Thursday, May 14th, 2020

NFPA 13, 14, and 20 2016 Edition Update

Thursday, December 17th, 2020

Location of Events:

**Montgomery County Fire Academy**

**1175 Conshohocken Road**

**Conshohocken, PA 19428**

**NO SHOW POLICY:** Attendees are asked to provide at least 72 hours' notice if they are unable to attend a class that they have registered for. Failure to comply with this policy may result in the attendee being placed on the waiting list for future classes.



# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 ASCET South Jersey Chapter Meet- ing	5	6	7
8	9	10 SFPE MEETING	5	12	13	14
15	16	17 ASCET Berks Chapter Meeting	18 ASCET Delaware Chap- ter Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	18	19	26	27	28
29	30	31 ASCET Philadelphia Chapter Meet- ing				

UPCOMING PHILADELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE MEETINGS AND EVENTS:				
Date	Meeting Type	Event	Location	Time
3/10/2020	Monthly Meeting	SFPE National presented by Victoria Valentine	Oliver Fire Protection; & Security; King of Prussia, PA	5:30 PM
4/16/2020	Spring Seminar & Tradeshow	Spring Seminar & Tradeshow	Sheraton Valley Forge	All Day
5/12/2020	Annual Business Meeting	Annual Business Meeting	TBD	5:00 PM





Philadelphia-Delaware Valley SFPE

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[www.sfpephiladelphia.org](http://www.sfpephiladelphia.org)

## 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.

# SFPE Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter 2020-2021 Nomination of Officers

Nominations for the SFPE Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter 2020-2021 officers will be announced next month. If you are interested in running for an office, please contact: Jeff LaSalle at [jeff.lasalle@tlc-eng.com](mailto:jeff.lasalle@tlc-eng.com). Elections are held at the annual meeting on May 12, 2020. The Chairman of the nominating committee is Jeff LaSalle. Additional Nominations can be made in accordance with Article VIII, Section VIII-5 of the By-laws and must be received by the Secretary by April 12, 2020. Nominations should be sent to Tim Murray, Secretary, at [dvsfpe@gmail.com](mailto:dvsfpe@gmail.com).