1. John Durante, President of the SFPE New York Chapter, was present for our meeting and reported that the SFPE World Trade Center Fund collected $37,000. $6,085 was distributed to each family of the Widows and Children Fund and $5,251.50 was given to families of the SFPE members who lost their lives. John thanked the NJ members for our generous donations.

2. A motion was made and carried to accept the secretary and treasurer's reports.

3. Rich Reitberger talked about our April anniversary meeting. The agenda includes:
   - Chapter Anniversary presentation and history
   - Fire Protection Legislative / Excellent in Government awards
   - (Note: Limited quantity. Portfolios will be presented to the first 45 people who respond and attend).

   • 25th Anniversary lapel pins and special Anniversary ink pens for all attendees.
   • Choice of prime rib or salmon dinner.

   Special anniversary memorabilia also will be available.

4. Fusible Link articles are always welcomed and should be sent to Brad Hart.

5. A motion was made and carried to accept three new members into the Chapter; Joe Razza, Chris Vitale and Donna Spano.

6. John Cholin reported that 4 of the 5 people (80%) taking the NJ SFPE exam review course passed the last exam. The national average was 44%. A letter was read from John Warnet who thanked the people teaching the exam course for all their help. Another course will resume the first Monday in July after the 4th of July and run until the first Monday in October. It will take place at NJIT.

7. Joe Janiga reported that the nominating process for next year's Board of Directors has begun. Any volunteers to serve on the board are welcome.
8. Our annual seminar will take place in June or September and will be about the World Trade Center attack.

Technical Presentation From March 4 Meeting

**Topic:** HID Lighting Systems  
**Speaker:** Mike Newman and Jim Tolos

Mike Newman and Jim Tolos gave us a presentation titled, “HID Lighting Systems.” Lighting systems utilizing high intensity discharge (HID) lamps have existed for several years and are widely used in industrial occupancies. Although commonly recognized as a safe means of providing high quality lighting, HID lighting is suspected of being the source of ignition for several major fires.

This informative session discussed the different types of lighting systems, which include incandescent and electric discharge. There are three main types of high intensity discharge lights; mercury vapor, high pressure sodium and metal halide.

Dangers associated with metal halide lights include an internal quartz arc tube, an outer glass bulb, high operating pressure (50 psi) and high temperature (2000 degrees F)! Internal and external causes of bulb failure include moisture, improper installation, and the use of the bulbs in these lights pass their rated life.

Recommended loss control practices include the use of barriers and listed fixtures (e.g., UL Listed), using these lights in accordance with manufacturers specifications, and relamping before the end of the bulbs useful life.

Also, Some manufacturers suggest that by turning metal halide lights off at least once per week for at least 15 minutes, units approaching the end of their useful life will fail to restart properly. They imply this action will prevent violent lamp failures. Similarly, NFPA 70B titled Recommended Practice for Electrical Equipment Maintenance, will include a new requirement for these lamps stating that continuously operated systems should have their lamps turned off once per week for at least 15 minutes.

Jim Tolos presented a case study of an actual loss attributed to HID lights. A warehouse in Memphis, TN containing Level 2 aerosols had a fire where three sprinkler heads controlled the fire and kept the damage to about $150,000. The sprinkler system was designed to provide .97 gpm/1,500 square feet. It appears that maintenance personnel replaced the bulbs in the HID lights but did not re-install the protective barriers.

The New York Metro SFPE Chapter golf outing will be held on June 10, 2002 at the Beaver Brook Country Club in Clinton, NJ.

**Outing Highlights Include:**

- Limited Openings This Year - Sign Up Early
- Guests Welcomed!!!
- Chance For $10,000 Cash Hole-In-One Prize + 3 More Bonus Holes
- 7:30 - 8:15 A.M. Continental Breakfast & Registration With An 8:30 A.M. Start
- Greens Fees & Cart - Included
- Cash Cart & Bar
- 1:30 Pm Deluxe Hot And Cold Buffet & Draft Beer Served With Meal
- Tournament & Door Prizes (Prize Sponsors And Donations Are Welcomed)
- Free Photograph Of Each Foursome

All this for $140 per person if received by May 17th. $145 if payment is received after May 17th

To sign up and further details, please visit the SFPE web site at www.sfpeny.org.
Career Opportunities

More detailed information is contained in previous Fusible Link issues and on www.njsfpe.com


The Schirmer Engineering Corporation, Deerfield, Illinois, has an immediate need for Code Consultants and entry to senior level Fire Protection Engineers and designers. Opportunities are available in the Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Phoenix, San Diego, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. areas. The company offers a competitive salary and benefit package. Send resume to G. Johnson, Schirmer Engineering Corporation, 707 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield, Illinois 60015-4997; fax: (847) 272-2365; e-mail: gjohnson@schirmereng.com.

FM Global’s Parsippany, NJ office has several job openings for engineers and underwriters in their HPR and Commercial Properties divisions. If you are interested in applying for any of the following you can e-mail your resume to joseph.janiga@fmglobal.com or call Joe at 973-402-2200x6774.
**LOSS CONTROL CONSULTANT NEEDED**


More detailed information is contained in previous issues of the *Fusible Link* and on line at www.NJSFPE.com

Qualified candidates can contact Rhonda Clarke at 212-770-5099.

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**PA Chapter Co-Sponsoring Seminar**

**April 16**

Fire Protection 2002  
Tuesday April 16, 2002  
Montgomery County Fire Academy  
1175 Conshohocken Road  
Conshohocken, Pa. 19428 (610) 278-3500

8:00 - 8:30  
Registration / Coffee & Doughnuts

8:30 - 9:30  
Welcome and Introductions

Keynote Speaker: Kenneth Lauziere P.E., Fire Marshal, Office of the Architect of the Capitol, whose featured topic is “Painful Lessons learned from the Pentagon Tragedy”

9:30 – 10:15  
Russ Fleming P. E. of National Fire Sprinkler Association

The 10 most Important Changes coming in the new editions of NFPA 13, 13R, 13D & 25

10:15 - 10:30  
Break

10:30 - 11:15  
Ed Mann -- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Building Code

11:15 – 11:55  
Update Panel Discussion: Sprinkler Fitter Licensing in Philadelphia - David Perri, P.E. Deputy

11:55- 12:30  
Breakouts

a. James McGinty, retired Philadelphia Bomb Squad - Securing Your Facility

b. Penn Star Medivac Crew and Montgomery County Fire Academy - Evacuation Policies and Procedures including the Decontamination Process

12:30 - 1:15  
Lunch

1:15 - ??  
Networking and Demonstrations  
Penn Star Helicopter and Montgomery County Fire Academy  
Montgomery County Sheriff Department Bomb Squad Procedures  
City of Philadelphia Arson Dogs

Enclosed please find $_________ for #_________ tickets to the “Fire Protection Networking--2002” to be held Tuesday April 16, 2002.  Cost per person including Lunch will be $50.00 in advance and $60.00 at the door. Students $25.00 in advance and $35.00 at the door.

Please make check payable to “Fire Protection Networking--2002” and mail to Frank Spitz at Spitz Fire Protection Design 777 Sandra Lane Phoenixville, Pa. 19460

HARTFORD HOSPITAL FIRE

December 8, 2001 marked the 40th anniversary of the Hartford Hospital fire. The Hartford Hospital High Building was 13 stories high housing 11 floors of patients and services, one floor for administration and one floor of equipment (13th). There was also a basement and sub-basement below ground. Licensed in 1854, the Hospital was, by 1960 standards better than the “state-of-the-art with a National reputation. It was a world of medical and modern technology. It also contained a trash chute. It was reported that on any given day the chute received 5,220 tons of debris. There was also a sign at the doors on every floor that stated “burnable waste only" This led many into assuming it to be an incinerator.
On December 8, 1961 all but 21 of the 810 patient beds were occupied. Due to the timing, with overlapping shifts of employees there were more than 2000 people present in the hospital and approximately 5000 total on the 35 acre campus. It has been determined that a lit cigarette was dropped into the chute. This resulted in a smoldering, smoky fire. Without adequate oxygen, the flammable gases collected in the upper portions of the trash chute. The opening of a chute door introduced the needed oxygen and the smoldering fire became a flame shooting 150 feet up the shaft, igniting more gases as it advanced. An open door on the 8th floor permitted the fire to enter the corridor until it was happily shut. However, a weak hinged door on the 9th floor was blown open. The fireball became a “wall of flames traveling instantaneously through open vents and doors leading to patient rooms, killing 16 people in its path and virtually melting the entire 9th floor unit.” The fire fed on combustible ceiling tile which sometimes created small bonfires on the floor as they dropped out. The victims included 7 patients, five visitors and four employees. Smoke also penetrated vents in the rooms. In spite of the intense heat the solid core wood door on patients rooms, when kept closed, prevented the fire from entering the rooms.

Fighting the fire from the outside was also a major problem. The 100-foot ladder only reached 8 1/2 stories. The fire was on the 9th floor. One fireman was able to jump from the top rung. He is credited with being able to close doors on 6 patient rooms. He eventually jumped back to the ladder.

Employees worked tirelessly helping the fire service to evacuate the patients. Employees tried to extinguish the trash fire at the end of the chute resulting in a 6-minute or more delay in notifying the fire service. The first alarm was sounded at headquarters at 2:41. The ceiling tile were subsequently found to have a flame spread rating (index) of 180.

This disaster received widespread study and has resulted in a number of important safety oriented code provisions. Today the hospital maintains a Fire and Safety division with five full-time employees who have extensive background and training in fire safety, hazardous materials, inspections and CPR.

This article briefed from Connecticut Department of Public Safety newsletter “UPDATE, Vol. XLV No. 2 Feb. 2002, which in turn was excerpted from the hospital newsletter EXTRA.

**NJ Chapter Fire Protection PE Course -- Summer 2002**

As per previous issues, the Chapter will be sponsoring an FPE review course this summer. Volunteers are needed to teach/mentor participants for various topics. Please contact John Cholin at 201-337-8621 to sign up as a student or instructor.

**EVACUATION OF WORLD TRADE CENTER**

The following was excerpted from the “Letter to Editor” section of the NFPA Journal March/April 2002. Dennis Kirson is to be commended for providing some factual data vs. the media speculative "facts" that accompany too many reports on such disasters.

**WTC Evacuation**

I would like to respond to John Ng's letter to the editor in the January/February 2002 NFPA Journal. I must inform you that, at the time of the construction and initial occupancy of the World Trade Center twin towers, I was one of several fire protection engineers working for the Port Authority and thus have an emotional investment in this discussion. I've also never been a proponent of the defend-in-place concept.

Regarding your statement on evacuation, you might be interested to learn that the North Tower was struck between the 93rd and 98th floors. At the crash floors and above, 1,360 people died; none survived. Below the crash line, 72 died and more than 4,000 survived.

The South Tower was struck between the 78th and 84th floors. Of 599 fatalities in the South Tower, only four worked below the crash area.
No one who worked on the 58th floor or below is known to have died.

Improvements were made to the exit stairs between the 1993 bombing and the September 11 attack. In 2001, people could see their way down the stairs; in 1993, they couldn't.

I believe many improvements can be made to current egress requirements, and NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®, is constantly being improved. I can't conceive of any economically feasible improvements that could have altered the results of September 11.
2001-2002
MEETING DATES/PROGRAM

(Programs Subject to Change)
Watch web page concerning cancellation In case of possible inclement weather conditions

April 1  Chapter 25th Anniversary Meeting
Legislative Awards
Also Chapter History Brief
May 6  Sprinkler Economics/Cost Benefits - Speaker to be announced from Sprinkler Fitters
Union 696
June 3  Viking Upright ESFR - Speaker: Scott Marfarino of Viking

*Watch Web Page for Weather Announcement

POSITIONS TAKEN BY SPEAKERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE POSITION OF THE NJ S.F.P.E.

All meetings are held at the Hanover Manor, Eagle Rock Road, Hanover, NJ (approximately 1½ miles west of Eisenhower Parkway).

Get Acquainted Hour 5:00-6:00 p.m. Adjournment is usually before 8:30 p.m. The Executive Committee meets at 4:00 p.m.

Editors Note--If you would like to advertise your company and help offset the cost of this publication, as well as having your business card in front of over 150 Fire Protection Professionals please call John Cholin at (201) 337-8621 for further information. The cost is $100 for 10 issues.

COMMITTEES 2001–2002

Standing Committees

Program:
  Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chairs, with input from all members
  Consulting – Nick Chergotis
NY Chapter Liaison:
  Rich Reitberger (Pat Egan back-up liaison)
Arrangements:
  Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chair
Membership:
  Sarge Slicer, Chairman
Nominating:
  Joe Janiga, Chairman
  Glenn Deitz
  Bob Murray
Scholarship Fund:
  Rich Reitberger, Chairman
  Robert Hall
  Two NY Chapter members to be assigned
Auditing:
  Jim Tolos
  Joe Janiga
Archivist/Historian:
  Jim Tolos
Communications:
  Fusible Link: Brad Hart, Interim Editor
  Dave Gluckman, Asst. Editor
  Ana Crisostomo, Publishing
Mailing/Automation:
  To be determined

Special Committees

Bylaws: Jim Tolos, Chairman
  Joe Janiga – Co-Chairman
Career Recruitment:
  Al Dopart, Chairman
  Tom Brereton
  Joe Stavish
  Glenn Deitz
  Dave Gluckman
Golf Outing:
  Richard Reitberger, Chairman
  Bob Murray
Awards:
  John Ed Ryan
  Frank Savino
PE Examination:
  John Cholin, Chairman
  Joe Janiga
  Mike Newman
  Chuck Gandy
Joint Seminar/Chapter Seminar
  Richard Reitberger, Chairman
  Nick Chergotis
  Pat Egan
  Dave Gluckman
Legislative:
  Rich Reitberger, Chairman
  Jerry Naylis
  Bob Murray
  Nick Chergotis
New Jersey Chapter SFPE
ANNOUNCES

25th Anniversary Dinner Meeting
MONDAY April 1, 2002

Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ

Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar)
Dinner at 6 PM

HIGHLIGHTS
• Chapter Anniversary presentation and history – Rich Reitberger
• Fire Protection Legislative / Excellent in Government awards – Jerry Naylis
  Note: Limited quantity. Portfolios will be presented to the first 45 people who respond and attend.
• 25th Anniversary lapel pins and special Anniversary ink pens for all attendees.
• Choice of prime rib or salmon dinner.
• Special anniversary memorabilia also will be available.

$25 per person

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
"SFPE N.J. CHAPTER"

To: Rich Reitberger
513 Cross Street
Harrison, NJ 07029

NAME: __________________________
COMPANY: ___________________ TELEPHONE ___________________

☐ Prime Rib ☐ Salmon

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, March 29, 2002. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF 3/29/02
Telephone Number: 973-541-6776 (leave message in voice mail)
Fax Number: 973-402-1070 (please address fax to Rich Reitberger)