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Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

FUSIBLE LINK

OCTOBER 2009

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President's Message...

Members:

This month is our annual bus trip to a destination of interest. This year on October 5th we are visiting Viking Yacht in New Gretna, NJ. This company manufactures (from scratch) very high end boats. Their current popular model is the 82 foot version of their luxury line of power yachts. The plant is similar in layout to an airplane or helicopter plant and not much different from the helicopter plant we visited last year. I know you will find the tour both interesting and enjoyable. After the tour, we will lunch at South Jersey's famous Renault Winery which we will also tour and see how wine goes from the vine to the glass. Hope to see you on the bus. This past month we also reported on the loss of Past President and long time Chapter member Nick Chergotis. Nick was always a huge part of our Chapter and will be missed. Finally Past Presidents, Joe Janiga and Sarge Slicer will be receiving their Fellow Grades from SFPE National at the annual meeting in Phoenix. Congratulations again to both Joe and Sarge.

Rich Reitberger
NJSFPE Chapter President

**Nicholas P. Chergotis
1929 - 2009**



New Jersey Chapter Past President and long time Board Member Nicholas P. Chergotis, died August 21, at his home in Shrewsbury, NJ. He was 80 years old. Born and raised in Bayonne, Nick moved to Shrewsbury in 1969. Upon finishing his University education, he volunteered to serve 4 years in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict. He later began his accomplished career as a Fire Protection Engineer helping to develop one of the first residential smoke detectors. He became a security and fire protection advisor for the White House, Camp David, many Federal facilities, and the private homes of several US Presidents. He was very active in the NJ Chapter of SFPE and helped raise funds to establish one of the first university level fire protection programs. Nick served on several of the Chapter committees and was a strong proponent of recognizing Fire Protection Engineering as a licensed Professional Engineering discipline in many states. He was co-chair of the Technical Seminar committee helping to bring interesting and informative presentations and lectures to the membership as well as organizing trade shows and new product demonstrations. Nick served as NJ Chapter President 1995-96.

Nick was a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Asbury Park since 1969 and sung in the choir for over 30 years. He is survived by his beloved wife Niki; his brother George Chergotis; his daughter Stella and her husband Christos Fotopoulos; his daughter Elizabeth and her husband Eric Bauer; and six grandchildren. Funeral Service were held on Aug 24th at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Asbury Park. Interment followed at the St. George Greek Orthodox Cemetery, Neptune. In lieu of flowers donations in his memory may be made to the St. George Building Fund, 700 Grand Avenue, Asbury Park, N.J. 07712.

**NJ SFPE Membership
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2009**

Past President Dave Gluckman called our September meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Dave called for a moment of silence in memory of Nick Chergotis who passed away recently.

The Treasurer's Report and the Secretaries Report were both read and accepted. The finance Committee report of the 2008-09 audit was presented to the members. The closing balance as of July 31, 2009 was \$14,534.47.

Dave Kurasz reported on residential sprinkler legislation in NJ and developments in the ICC. Anyone who is a member of the ICC is encourage to contact Dave about attending the upcoming Code Conference for a 'floor vote' expected on Oct 28 or 29th.

Dave also distributed letters for our members to use to show their support of the pending legislation in NJ.

Our October 5 meeting will be a day long field trip to Viking Yacht. Space is limited so sign up early.

The membership voted to accept three new members to the Chapter; Tom DeMange of Affiliated FM Insurance; Giovanni Pertuz of Master Fire and Electric; and Donna Spano of FM Global. Welcome folks.

Dues notices have been e-mailed. Renew your membership - pay your dues.

Andy Lynch of axonX presented us with an update on Video Image Detection. According to Andy VID uses the visible spectrum to identify fire. Analog cameras sensitive to

white light identify flame, smoke and reflected fire. They require at least 1ft candle of background light. The technology has been through two cycles of the NFPA 72 with minimum change and there are four manufacturers of VID today with UL Listing (UL268), FM Approval (FM3260) or both.

VID seems particularly suited to buildings with high ceilings and large volumes. For reference axonX has a 90° detector with a 100 ft range that can cover 10,000sq ft.

Additional file materials were circulated during the meeting and those interested are encouraged to visit www.axonx.com for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.



FALL BUS TRIP
Monday October 5, 2009
 Leaves from Parsippany, NJ
 7:30 am SHARP

Morning Tour
Viking Yacht, New Gretna, NJ

This manufacturing plant makes some of the worlds most prestigious motor yachts. We will tour the plant and see how 70 to 80 foot yachts are manufactured literally from scratch.

Lunch –Will be at the famed Renault Winery. See meal choices below

Afternoon Tour
Renault Winery, Egg Harbor City, NJ

This 150 year old winery is a registered New Jersey Historical site and a Pine Barrens paradise. We will tour the winery and glass-ware exhibit.

Note: The bus will leave at 7:30 SHARP from the FM Global parking lot behind 400 Interpace Parkway, Parsippany, NJ 07054. This is the normal bus boarding location we used for past trips.

There are a limited number of seats – 55 First Come First Served
 Dress is casual no sneakers or open toed shoes.
 Bus should be back in Parsippany by 6 pm.



REGISTRATION FORM
 (Make checks payable to “NJ Chapter SFPE”)

Name: _____

Company: _____

Meal Choice Boneless Breast of Chicken _____

 Sauteed Beef Tips _____

E-mail address _____ Phone Number _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: NJSFPE Bus Trip 2009
 c/o Vicki Serafin
 P. O. Box 8268
 Parsippany, NJ 07054
 Fax 973-541-6906

Questions or to reserve your seat in advance, please call Vicki Serafin at 973-541-6771.

Woman Dies After Catching Fire During Surgery

ST. LOUIS - A southern Illinois woman died after being severely burned in a flash fire while undergoing surgery, a rare but vexing dilemma in operating rooms. The Tennessee state medical examiner's office said McCall died from complications of thermal burns and classified her death as accidental. Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marion, Ill, said in a statement only that "there was an accidental flash fire in one of the hospital's operating rooms," injuring a patient before being immediately extinguished. The hospital didn't say how the fire started, but it said, without elaborating, that it was responding with "necessary and appropriate measures."

Surgical flash fires are most often sparked by electric surgical tools when oxygen builds up under surgical drapes. They occur an estimated 550 to 600 times a year - a tiny fraction of the millions of surgeries performed in the U.S. annually - and only kill about one or two people each year, said Mark Bruley, vice president for accident and forensic investigation at the ECRI Institute, a nonprofit health research agency.

Concern over such blazes waned after the 1970s, when highly flammable agents such as ether gave way to safer anesthetics. But worries have mounted in recent years with increased use of electrosurgical devices and the replacement of cloth hospital drapes with those made of more-flammable, disposable synthetic fabric. Bruley's organization has recommended that anesthesiologists stop using 100 percent oxygen and deliver only what the patient needs, perhaps by diluting the oxygen concentration with room air when surgical tools such as electronic scalpels and cauterizers that could ignite a fire are in use.

"What we've been advocating for years is that the open delivery of oxygen under the drapes essentially has to stop," with some exceptions such as cardiac pacemaker surgery or operations involving a neck artery, Bruley said.

Report on Smoke Alarms in U.S. Home Fires

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
 September 11, 2009

Almost all households in the U.S. have at least one smoke alarm, yet in 2003-2006, smoke alarms were present in only 69% of all reported home fires and operated in just under 47% of the reported home fires.

Forty percent of all home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms, while 23% resulted from homes in which smoke alarms were present but did not operate. The death rate per 100 reported fires was twice as high in homes without a working smoke alarm as it was in home fires with this protection. Hard-wired smoke alarms are more reliable than those powered solely by batteries.

Other key findings from Smoke Alarms in U.S. Home Fires:

- Smoke alarm failures usually result from missing, disconnected, or dead batteries. In one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working
- Most homes still have smoke alarms powered by batteries only.
- People 55 or older were more likely to have smoke alarms that were more than 10 years old. (Smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years)
- More than half of home fire deaths that occurred where no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms were present happened between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- The death rate per 1,000 reported fires is 84% lower when hardwired smoke alarms and wet pipe sprinklers are present

Meeting Dates/Programs 2009-2010

DATE	TOPIC
October 5	Viking Yacht and Renault Winery Manufacturing Plant Field Trip—Bus to New Gretna, NJ—Meet at FM Global 7:30 am, Return by 6 pm.
November 2	IBC Fire Code Changes—John Drucker, Deputy Fire Marshall—Red Bank
December 7	MIC (Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion) Update—Pete Carey, Potter Electric Signal Co.
January 4	Fire Pump Update—Bill Casey
February 1	Earthquake - Construction and Mitigation Analysis—EQ CAT
March 1	HVLS (High Volume Low Speed) Fan Update
April 23	Annual Technical Seminar (possibly joint with AFAA)
May 3	Pop up Curbs—Flammable Liquids
June 14	FM Global Standards Update
June 21	Golf Outing—West Point

“Residential Legislative Alert” on the next page is a form letter to the NJ Dept. of Community Affairs regarding residential sprinkler systems in all new residential construction. If you support this legislation feel free to alter the letter via cutting and pasting or simply using the document as is.



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Michael L. Ticktin, Esq.
Chief, Legislative Analysis
Department of Community Affairs
P.O. Box 802
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0802

To the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs:

I am writing to express my support for adoption of the Department's proposed regulations requiring the installation of comprehensive fire sprinkler systems in all new residential construction. I urge you to adopt the 2009 International Residential Code in New Jersey, a national initiative that will save thousands of lives from the ravages of fire across the nation each year. About 90 percent of fires occur in the home, the place where we're supposed to feel the safest, and the minimal cost of including fire sprinklers in new homes is worth saving the lives of our loved ones.

Last year alone, 85 people died in New Jersey from fires, and approximately 1,400 people were injured. Our firefighters are risking their lives under collapsing roofs and floors while fighting fires inside homes. Fire sprinklers protect the lives of residents and first responders while safeguarding valuable property, reducing insurance premiums and adding value to the homes they protect. This is a clear-cut and common sense decision. Fire sprinklers save lives and property.

Please join me, the U.S. Fire Administration, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the International Association of Firefighters, and many other fire service professionals, in supporting these regulations and being part of the solution to the devastating fire problem we have in New Jersey and across the U.S.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

E-mail address

**Engineers' Club of Philadelphia**

Founded in 1877

215 South 16th Street, Suite 16
Philadelphia, PA 19102Phone (215) 985-5701
info@engrclub.org

Fax (215) 985-5704

<http://www.engrclub.org>

The Engineering and Technical Center of the Delaware Valley

To: ECP Affiliate Societies
From: Diane Conway, Ph.D.

August 10, 2009

Please find enclosed a meeting invitation for the third ECP Affiliate Society Summit. The first two summits focused on ways the Club could assist our affiliate societies. As a result, we redesigned our website (www.engrclub.org) featuring a joint calendar. The calendar is intended not only to help disseminate event information, but also as a planning tool to avoid scheduling conflicts and to promote joint meetings. Any affiliate society is invited to include their events on the calendar. Also featured on the Club's new website is a scholarship section where each affiliate society can post information about scholarships.

This fall on **September 29th @ 6pm, ECP will host the third affiliate society summit**. The agenda is enclosed. We encourage each affiliate to bring representatives who are the primary person for each of the agenda items.

In response to your collective requests, the Club would like to begin offering administrative services for our affiliate societies. The ECP Board is currently revising the bylaws. These revised bylaws create a new framework for affiliate society membership and the provision of various administrative services. Please bring any representative from your society who has information and ideas on this topic as we value your input before we finalize these bylaws at the ECP Board meeting in November.

We look forward to seeing you and other representatives from your society at the summit. Please RSVP to me directly at dconway@engrclub.org, or call (215) 985-5701, or fax form to (215) 985-5704 by September 15, 2009.



Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

Founded in 1877

The Engineers Club of Philadelphia

Cordially invites you to

The Affiliate Society Leadership Summit

Tuesday, September 29th, 2009

At

Pennoni Associates

3001 Market Street, 2nd Floor
(Located next to 30th Street Train Station)
Philadelphia, PA 19104

6 P.M.

As a follow up to the two previous Affiliate Society Summits held in September, 2008 and May, 2009, the Engineers' Club would like to host a third summit of all the technical and professional societies in the Delaware Valley.

Please RSVP by Monday, September 21st, 2009 by emailing to (dconway@engrclub.org) or faxing to (215) 985-5704 the information below. Free parking available. Request with RSVP and instructions will be E-mailed prior to summit.

Name(s): _____

Society: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Need Parking? Yes (# of spaces needed) _____ No _____





Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

Founded in 1877

215 South 16th Street, Suite 16
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Phone (215) 985-5701
info@engrclub.org

Fax (215) 985-5704

<http://www.engrclub.org>

The Engineering and Technical Center of the Delaware Valley

AFFILIATE SOCIETY SUMMIT

Tuesday September 29, 2009

6PM

**Pennoni Associates
3001 Market Street
2nd Floor
Philadelphia, Pa 19104**

AGENDA

- **Welcome** - Eric Flicker, ECP President
- **Affiliate membership** - Jim Markham, ECP Affiliate Affairs Committee Chair
- **Engineers Week Award nomination information** - Susan Best, DVEWC Chair
- **Presentation of the new Student Outreach committee**
 - An introduction of the new committee will emphasize the mission of the committee to help attract students (K-20) into the engineering profession.
- **Pennsylvania Professional Development Credits** - Bob Wright, ECP Professional Development Committee Chair
 - Discussion of the new PA professional development credit requirements for practicing engineers
- Open Discussion and Wrap Up – Jim Markham
- Adjournment

Light Dinner will be available

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Christopher Reardon
Reardon Communications Group
908.229.4674
chris@reardoncommunications.com

MEDIA ADVISORY

FREE NEW JERSEY FIRE PREVENTION CODE SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 16

***Fire Officials and Fire Inspectors, Building Facility Managers and Engineers
Invited to Fire Facts Seminar #16 Covering:***

- ***Emergency and Standby Generators***
- ***Residential Fire Suppression Systems***
 - ***Backflow Preventers***
 - ***UFC Retrofit Code***

East Hanover, NJ – September 22, 2009 – City Fire Equipment Company of East Hanover will host the next in its series of free seminars, **FIRE FACTS SEMINAR #16**, Friday, October 16, at Seton Hall University, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The seminar will provide information and updates on emergency and standby generators; residential fire suppression systems; backflow preventers; and UFC retrofit code.

The free seminar is open to all fire officials and inspectors and building facility managers and engineers. Attending fire officials and inspectors will be eligible for 0.5 technical CEUs from the Division of Fire Safety. Attending building facility managers and engineers will receive a certificate of completion.

FIRE FACTS SEMINAR #16 will have as speakers: John Drucker, fire subcode official/fire code inspector, Red Bank; Dave Phelan, fire subcode official, North Bergen; and Stanley Sickels, NJ Fire Prevention & Protection Association.

City Fire Equipment Company seminars draw 200-300 participants from throughout New Jersey and are held in coordination with the South Orange Fire Department and Seton Hall University.

What: ***FIRE FACTS SEMINAR #16***

- *Emergency and Standby Generators*
- *Residential Fire Suppression Systems*
- *Backflow Preventers*
- *UFC Retrofit Code*

Who:

Speakers –
John Drucker, fire subcode official/fire code inspector, Red Bank
Dave Phelan, fire subcode official, North Bergen
Stanley Sickels, NJ Fire Prevention & Protection Association.

When:

Friday, October 16 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where:

Seton Hall University
Jubilee Hall
400 South Orange Avenue
South Orange, NJ 07079

Who Should Attend:

Fire Officials and Fire Inspectors
Attendees will be eligible for 0.5 Technical CEUs from the NJ Division of Fire Safety

Building Facility Managers and Engineers
Attendees will receive a certificate of completion

To register contact:

Paul McGrath – City Fire Equipment Company
973.560.1600, ext. 204
paul@cityfire.com
Registration deadline is Tuesday, October 6 for Fire Officials and Inspectors; after October 6, registration is open to all, subject to available space.

About City Fire Equipment Company

City Fire Equipment Company designs, installs and maintains all types of fire protection equipment, including fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, fire sprinklers and special hazard fire systems. The company is fully insured and licensed as a fire protection contractor and maintains an intimate knowledge of local, state and national fire codes. City Fire Equipment Company serves more than 3,400 customers and 5,000 sites. For information about service call 973.560.1600. Visit us at www.cityfire.com.



2008-2009 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

Program

Ed Armm, Chairman
Consulting - Peter Rullo
Richard Ravaoli

Arrangements

Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

Membership

John Cholin, Chairman

Nominating

Dave Gluckman, Chairman
Glenn Dietz
Chuck Gandy

Scholarship Fund

Chuck Gandy, Chairman
Ed Armm
Mike Machette
Alternates: Rich Reitberger, Jim Tolos

Auditing

Joe Janiga, Chairman
John Warnet

Archivist

Rich Reitberger, Chairman
Nicole Smith

Historian

Jim Tolos

Communications

Fusible Link—Brad Hart
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator
Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson
Website—Joe Janiga
Facebook & Twitter Coordinator—Todd Vazquez

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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Jim Tolos, Chairman
Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

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Al Dopart, Chairman
Glenn Deitz
Dave Gluckman
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Richard Reitberger, Chairman
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Rich Reitberger, Chairman

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Chuck Gandy

Chapter Seminar/Field Trip

Richard Reitberger, Chairman
Dave Gluckman
Joe Janiga

Legislative

Rich Reitberger, Chairman
Vinnie Fichera
Jerry Naylis
Dave Kurasz

Finance

Rich Reitberger - Chairman
John Cholin

HELPFUL LINKS

ADAAG <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/index.htm>

AFAA National <http://www.affaa.org/>

AFFSA <http://www.firesprinkler.org/>

ANSI <http://web.ansi.org/>

ASHRAE <http://www.ashrae.org/>

Campus-Firewatch <http://www.campus-firewatch.com/>

Coffee Break Training <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/>

CPSC <http://www.cpsc.gov/>

CSAA <http://www.csaaul.org/>

Municipal Codes (E Codes) <http://www.generalcode.com/Webcode2.html>

FDNY <http://nyc.gov/html/fdny/html/home2.shtml>

FM Global <http://www.fmglobal.com/>

FSDANY <http://www.fsdany.org/regs.htm>

FSI <http://www.firesprinklerinitiative.org/>

FSSA <http://www.fssa.net/>

Fire Tech Productions—Nicet Training (FTP) <http://www.firetech.com/>

Home Fire Spklr Coalition <http://www.homefiresprinkler.org/>

HVAC Bld. Control Fire Safety <http://www.iklimnet.com/hotelfires/hotelfiresmain.html>

AFAA-NJ <http://www.affaanj.org/>

International Code Council - <http://www.iccsafe.org/>

International Code Council Residential Sprinkler Exam - http://www.iccsafe.org/news/nr/2009/0709_ResidentialSprinklerExam.pdf

The Joint Commission (JCAHO) - <http://www.jointcommission.org/www.JointCommission.org/>

Material safety data Sheets (MSDS-OSHA Site) - <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/hazardcommunications/index.html>

National of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) - <http://www.nafed.org/index.cfm>