



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

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FUSIBLE LINK

For a number of reasons, none of which are defensible, the Fusible Link has not been issued for several months. We apologize. Regardless your Chapter has been progressing under the capable leadership of President Marvin Melton. The November meeting featured Jim Dolan, Bureau Chief Of the Fire Safety BUreau, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Dolan requested that anyone interested in teaching certification courses for fire inspector contact him at (609) 633-6106.



The January meeting featured Ralph Transue of Rolf Jenson Associates with a discussion on the impact of new technology on Standards for Fire Alarm Systems (basically the NFPA 72 Series.)

The March 12 meeting featured Larry McKenna , Sr. Engineer Corporate Fire Protection , A.T.&T.. Larry's message was that the telephone and communication industry has to consider many problems that are unique to that industry and that the "easy" solutions for other industries e.i. sprinklers are a major problem for them. We were impressed. Originanlly we intended to slip out . Glad we did not.

Membership in the New Jersey Chapter continues to grow. The following have been accepted including the November 6 meeting ;

NEW
MEMBERS
APPROVED



Paul Hewett, Johnson & Higgins
Ronald Bauer, Factory Mutual Engineering
John Warner, " " "
Bob Finelli, " " "
Robert Rokicki " " "
Bruce Rottner " " "
Raymond Sanders, M & M Protection Consultants
Henry Kingslow, Factory Mutual Engineering
Vincent Reyda, Survivor Fire & Security Systems
Peter Nandelli, Kiddle/Fenwall
Craig Williams, Fire Master
Daryl North , Matryxx
JJoseph Tavonmina, Wausau Insurance Co.

We are also happy to report that we are financially solivant . Treasuer Jim Tolas reports that as of 3/12/90 the NJ Chapter has \$ 3 777.06 on hand. In connection with this report, we note that the 1990 dues notices have been sent to all members. Jim indicates that a second notice will be sent. We suggest that you check with your finance officer to assure payment. Too many times it falls through the cracks. If you pay your own dues please respond.



Apology.--- In the last Fusible Link we credited John McLean with the success of the Golf Outings. John did this for a number of years. However the real credit for the last two years should go to Richard S. Wnek, Johnson & Higgins. Sorry.

In this same area, another Golf Outing is planned for this year. You will be hearing about the exact dates later. Plan to come even if you do are not one of those idiots that think it is fun to punch a small ball four two miles.



Dave Lauridsen has offered to chair a committee for nominating members for the "Fellow" award. We have two Fellows in our Chapter. There are a number who merit full consideration . Call Dave if you want to help. 212 943-1800.

NJ Chapter has not published a membership list in some time. It occurs to us that you may wish to get in touch with your officers. We hope these numbers are correct.

President-- Marvin Melton -- 201 285-1230 , 1st Vice-Chairman Frank Bender 201 663-0567, 2nd Vice-Chairman, Glenn Buser 201 891-3304 (home), Treasurer, Jim Tolos, 201 968-4674 , Past- President, Lou Parks 201 266-9242.

We note with deep regret and sorrow the passing of MARK PAUL GAUTTERTY on Friday, Feb. 23. Frank was a safety specialist for Union Carbide in Bound Brook for 25 years. He retired in 1981. He was Fire Code Official for Branchburg Township. He retired this year after 28 years as an instructor at the Somerset County Fire School. Frank was a member of the NJ Assn. of Fire Chiefs, SFPE, Somerset County Fire Bureau and the Somerset County Fire Academy. He was Asst. Fire Chief McQuoid Fire Dept, Middletown. Frank was awarded the Citizens Award by the City of Antwerp, Belgium for supervising the fire-fighting activities for 175 continuous days while city was under attack.

NEW DCA COMMISSIONER- Melvin R. Primas, Jr. , former Mayor of Camden was affirmed as the new Commissioner of the State Department of Community Affairs. The DCA oversees the administration of the NJ Uniform Construction Codes, and the NJ Fire Prevention Codes. Commissioner Primas in his acceptance speech acknowledged that fire was a major problem that must be resolved. He stated that "Citizens can and must learn to protect themselves when fires do erupt. Public Education is a vital aspect of this learning process."



FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION- During it Jan. 24 meeting it was announced that training standards for firefighters and fire training instructors have been officially adopted. They were printed in the Feb. 5 NJ Register. The Office of Administrative Law will print a Uniform Fire Code update during the first part of 1990. It will include the above traing standards , the final portions of Subchapter 4 (Retrofit) and all other amendments adopted since Jan. 17, 1989. It was also noted that the number of certified fire officials/inspectors peaked at 4 700 individuals but is leveling off to be between 2 700 and 3 000.



NATIONAL SCENE- Admiral Paul Alexander Yost, Jr., Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard has been nominated as Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, filling a position vacant since June, 1989. Also appointed in the FEMA as head of the U.S. Fire Administration was Oregon State Fire Marshal Olin Greene. Greene was Florida State Fire Marshal before moving to Oregon. Both Yost and Greene have a vast degree of experience in Fire Protection . We look forward to more progress in Fire Protection.



BOCA ANNUAL MEETING- The BOCA membership will meet in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada June 24 through 29, 1990. In addition to the code changes previously mentioned , a number of other very important proposals will be decided. One of the more important will be the elimination of exceptions for sprinklers in Institutional Buildings. These exceptions have been in the NFPA Life Safety Code and thus other codes since 1970. The change has the blessing of the American Hospital Association. It is unfortunate that it took so long, so many lives & so much damage to get the changes endorsed, Those who died last October in Norfolk did not die in vain.





PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS - The Fire Protection Engineers examination was given in 1989 in 24 States to 109 individuals. Iowa and Nebraska joined 33 other States now offering the examination. This was the highest number ever to take the test. The Engineering Registration Committee still needs problems for future examinations. If you have an interesting , not too complicated problem (and answer) which can be solved from experience and information from readily available sources, PLEASE make it available.

BUILDING CODE- The 1989 supplement to the 1987 BOCA NATIONAL BUILDING CODE became effective in New Jersey on November 1, 1989. This supplement contains one of the most important new provisions ever. As of Nov. 1, 1989, ALL multiple-family buildings are required to be protected with an NFPA 13 or 13R fire-sprinkler system. An additional amendment will also make it most economical for so-called row or town-house developments to also install sprinklers. This action was taken after the BOCA membership reaffirmed in June the decision they had made the previous year. Some seven members of the NJ Fire Safety Commissioner Advisory Boards attended the June meeting to argue for the protection.



The arguments are still not over. Additional amendments were proposed for the 1990 code cycle which would exempt certain buildings. The N.J. members present at the hearing in Louisville opposed this watering down. Three proposals recommended by the BOCA Code Changes Committee have been challenged by the NJ Fire Code Advisory Committee. The Building Code Committee of the FCAC is chaired by Gary Lewis , Fairfield

BOCA CONTINUED- There has been a large number of proposals to the BOCA National Building Code during the last three years all dealing with Residential Buildings. In an effort to understand them all, a compilation of all 1990 and proposed 1991 amendments concerning Residential Buildings has been developed. Anyone interested in a copy contact the author of "Fusible Link".



CALL FOR PAPERS- A call for papers has been issued for a conference on FIRESAFETY DESIGN IN THE 21st CENTURY scheduled to be held May 8-10,1991 on campus of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Massachusetts. Abstracts are requested by Aug. 1, 1990 . Conference will be sponsored by WPI and SFPE under a grant from the National Science Foundation. Contact SFPE headquarters for more information.

ENGINEERS-TELL YOUR DAUGHTERS- There will soon be a serious shortage of engineers. The best way to have enough good engineers in the future is to attract the most qualified students including the females as well as the males. TELL YOUR DAUGHTER.



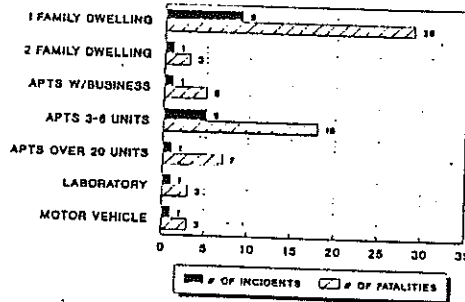
CANADA- J.K. Richardson, B.Sc.,B.Eng. is the new head of the Fire Research Section of the National Research Council of Canada. The objectives of the Fire Research Section are to respond to the fire research needs and provide a knowledge base in fire for the Canadian construction industry, regulatory officials, and the fire services; participate in the development of building codes and fire test standards; build the technical foundations necessary to convert from the present regulation-based system; and create a network of universities doing research on fire-related topics, with the Section as a focus.

NEW FIRE MARSHALS ASSN.- At the August meeting of the State Fire Marshals Assn. of the International Association of FireChiefs the membership voted to establish a National Association of Fire Marshals (NASFM) totally separated and apart from any existing organization. The first elections will be held for officers in April, 1990 Interim officers are President James F. McMullen, California, Vice-President Francis A. Mc Garry , New York , Secretary/Treasurer John H. Coburn. With that many Irish in charge how can they fail ?????

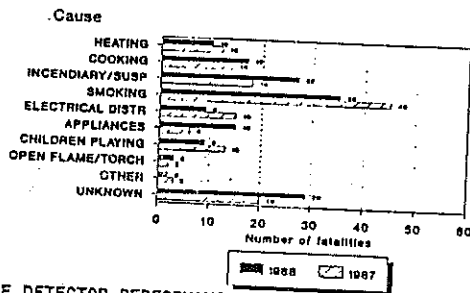
FIRE FATALITIES IN NEW JERSEY- The Bureau of Fire Safety, Department of Community Affairs has published it Report on Civilian Fire Fatalities, 1988 . The data used was provided by those fire departments participating in the National Fire Incident Reporting System, plus inquiries by the Bureau where the Departments are not participating. Careless smoking continues to lead the list for causes (23%) with arson and suspicious fires next at 17%. Cooking was next at 11%. A closer look shows that more than 37% of residential fatalities were caused by careless smoking, and children playing with matches and lighters.

PUT OUT THAT CIGARETTE. OUT THE WINDOW.

MULTIPLE FIRE FATALITIES



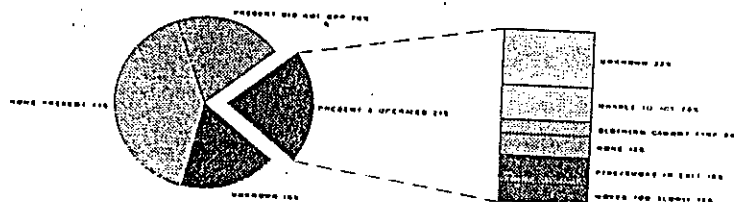
RESIDENTIAL FIRE FATALITY CAUSES



RESIDENTIAL SMOKE DETECTOR PERFORMANCE

Many people continue to ignore the benefits of early warning provided by smoke detectors. In 41% of the civilian fatalities, no smoke detectors were present. In another 21% of the fatalities, smoke detectors were present but did not operate either because the detectors were defective, or the batteries were removed. In 18% of the cases, damage was too severe to determine whether or not detectors were present. In only 21% of the fatalities were detectors present and operating. The following chart helps to illustrate what, if any, factors prevented the victims from escaping where smoke detectors were present and operating.

RESIDENTIAL SMOKE DETECTOR PERFORMANCE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS- The Construction Code Element of DCA has scheduled its annual code change proposal hearing for May 11, 1990 to commence at 9:30 am. in the first floor conference room of Building 3 of 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, N.J. Any one wishing to make amendments to National Codes or those in need of further information is invited to telephone Element at (609) 530-8789.



NEW YORK CITY- In case you had not heard, on July 25, 1989 the Mayor signed Intro 916-A into law. This law strictly regulates the installation of sprinklers by requiring the licensing of fire suppression contractors. All Master Fire Suppression Piping Contractor must have at least seven years prior experience and must maintain a place of business in New York City.



WHERE DO YOU STAY ON THE ROAD? - The U.S. House has approved and sent to the Senate a bill which requires that all federally sponsored conferences would have to be held at fire-sprinklered protected properties, and within seven years of enactment at least 90% of all federal travel nights must be spent in hotels which are protected with sprinklers and smoke detectors. Sponsors intend to encourage the installation of fire-sprinklers in all hotels and motels. Nothing was said about any effort to save the bureaucrats whom spend more than \$1.5 billion a year on hotel stays.

PUBLICATIONS--



✓ JOURNAL OF FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING- This is new publication of SFPE in case you did not know. Vol.1, No.4 was issued in January, 1990. For subscription information contact SFPE, 60 Battery March St. Boston, MA 02110 or telephone (617) 482-0686.

✓ CONSTRUCTION CODE COMMUNICATOR- Contact Bureau Technical Services CN 816 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0816

NEWSLETTER-BUREAU FIRE SAFETY- Contact Geo. A. Miller, Asst. Dir. Fire Safety Bureau of Fire Safety, CN 809 Trenton, NJ. 080625-0809 or (609)633-6071.

INTERNATIONAL- An additional course of study for Health and Building Surveyors has been introduced at the University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury, New South Wales Australia entitled "Fire Dynamics in Buildings". The course is intended for on or off campus study. The Study Book is intended to introduce the student to various elements of fire protection including Fire Dynamic in General, Fire Technology in Buildings, Life Safety Hazards, Prevention of Fire Spread; Design Considerations; Means of Egress and Ingress; Fire Protection System and Case Studies. The course also includes two Books of Readings which are a compilation of many research papers and applicable articles for which copyrights were waived or not needed. Additionally a Fire Protection Library has been established to assist the students need for further information. The course was authored by John Ed. Ryan, Past-Pres. NJ Chap. SFPE.