



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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June 2001

ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING JUNE 4

The Annual Chapter Meeting will be held at the Hanover Manor on June 4. This is an important meeting, as those attending will be voting for your chapter officers and directors. We have also included an informative technical program on two subjects which most of you will find extremely interesting. Since this is the annual meeting, the board has voted to upgrade the meal and provide free wine, beer and soda at each table for the same standard meeting price.

NOMINATION FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

As per the Nomination Section of the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers Constitution and By-Laws, the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of Officers and Directors for election at the Business Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 4, 2001.

The deadline for new nominations of May 7, 2000 has passed; thus the slate of nominations is as follows:

President - Chuck Gandy
First VP - Sarge Slicer
Second VP - Rich Reitberger
Treasurer - Glenn Dietz
Asst. Treasurer - John Cholin
Secretary - Dave Gluckman
Asst. Secretary - Brad Hart

NJ-SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting started at 6:10 with an introduction of attendees.
2. Our web site is established and is www.njsfpe.com.
3. The minutes of the January 8 meeting were read and accepted.
4. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.
5. It was reported that the joint New York/New Jersey SFPE April seminar lost \$1,200.00. Our goal to recover part of this loss is by selling hole sponsors for the upcoming golf outing. Hole sponsors are being sought.
6. The general membership favored a motion to accept the application for membership of James Marsh of Global Risk Consultants.
7. John Cholin announced that the SFPE review exam is scheduled to start the first Monday following Independence Day. To take advantage of this program, or for additional information, contact John Cholin at (201) 337-8621.
8. Gary Lewis gave a presentation on the International Building Code and International Fire Code. Mr. Lewis is currently the building and fire official for the City of Summit. As a member of the New Jersey Advisory Committee of the Department of Community Affairs, he provided input into the development of these new codes. Gary estimates that the new codes will be implemented and will replace the BOCA Code toward the end of 2002.
9. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

GEORGE KOUTSOUBIS PE
SENIOR ENGINEER

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Notes From May Technical Program -- "Performance Based Design from a Code Official's Standpoint"

Gary Lewis gave an excellent presentation on the history and current draft of the International Code Council Performance Code. Gary was nice enough to hand out code books to all people attending the meeting. Some of the main points of his presentation were as follows:

1. It is likely that the State of New Jersey will adopt this code in the fall of 2002.
2. The volume of the code is relatively minor compared to prescriptive codes. It is only 1/4" thick and 2/3 of that is appendix.
3. Determining whether a design is acceptable will largely be determined by a peer review process.
4. This type of code has been successful overseas. That doesn't mean there haven't been issues.
5. The code is not based on "Design-Build."
6. The system designer using this code first has to prove why he/she should use this approach.
7. This is an "Objective Based Code." There are no objectives in the BOCA or International Building Codes.
8. There are 3 pages of the code where one should pay particular attention.

a. Page 14, Table 303.1 - Performance Group classifications for Buildings or Facilities.
There are 4 groups defined.

b. Page 15, Table 303 - Maximum level of Damage to be tolerated based on performance groups and design event magnitudes.

There is a 4 level severity matrix and performance group chart.

c. Page 16 - Section 304 - Loss Levels are defined

9. When critical assumptions are made regarding occupancy that materially affect the design, it is likely that these assumptions will be placed in a covenant to the building's deed.

Thanks, Gary for a very informative talk.

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Jane I. Lataille, P.E., FSFPE is SFPE's delegate to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. She reports that the concept of eliminating the smaller discipline examinations has been under consideration by the NCEES for several years, but it is being given more serious consideration at this time.

In California, one of the first States to issue Registration for Fire Protection Engineers, the subject has been debated as the Registration Act comes up for review under the so-called "Sun-shine Law" which requires review of most regulatory legislation and its implementation. There are some moves to debate the PE registration in the political arena.

The future of the PE examination will be an item for discussion at the annual SFPE meeting May 13. A concerted effort to retain the status quo will probably be required. The next Fire Protection Engineers examination will be conducted in October.



Charles L. Gandy, P.E.
Chief Fire Protection Engineer

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WILL THE TITLE "PROFESSIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER" DISAPPEAR?

This is not an IDLE Question to be glossed over. For several years most "Title" licenses have come under aggressive attack. A number of reasons have been expressed in support of the idea that National Professional Engineers Examinations (and licensing or registration) be limited to CIVIL, CHEMICAL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL. An extreme idea suggests that a single examination be given which would include these three disciplines. ALL OTHER TITLES WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION EXAMS.

NEW JERSEY REVIEWING INTERNATIONAL CODES FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION

An advisory committee comprised of representatives from the construction industry, code officials and consumer and safety advocates has been formed. The committee members have been divided into subject-specific, technical working groups to take a close look at different aspects of the codes.

The charge of this INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE is to review the International Codes for consistency with the

intent and purpose of the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Act.

Signed into law in 1975, the UCC was enacted for the express purpose of controlling the cost of construction while allowing the use of new technologies and at the same time protecting public health and safety.

Another aspect of the charge to the ICC Advisory Committee is the request to develop a timely, efficient and reliable process for the review of new model code editions in the future.

The ICC Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 129 at the Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, Trenton. Meetings are subject to cancellation if there is no meaningful information to be shared. If you wish to attend contact the Code Development Unit at (609) 984-7609 to confirm meeting dates.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPENDS ON SEVERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE UP-DATE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE CODES

The Committees appointed by the Board of Regulations and Standards (BBRS) consists of:

- Construction Materials Safety Board
- Fire Protection/Prevention Advisory Committee
- Geotechnical Committee
- Seismic Committee
- Loads Committee
- Building Official Certification Committee
- Energy Committee

NEW YORK STATE FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE UPDATE

On November 10, 1999 in accordance with a Legislative mandate the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council (Code Council) directed the Department of State to incorporate the 8 International Codes into the State regulations (ICC building, fire, residential,

plumbing, mechanical fuel gas, property maintenance and energy).

On December 15, 1999 several technical committees were established by the Council. These committees were directed to prepare recommendations for modifications to the ICC Codes using Executive Order 20 and the Administrative Procedures Act (SAPA). Quarterly progress reports were required. Also appointed was a group of expert advisors to provide technical assistance.

The Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform (GORR) was invited to monitor the proceedings and provide advice regarding E.O. 20 and SAPA.

In February, 2000 the technical committees began open meetings on a regular basis. Public participation was encouraged. Public hearings receive comments on the IC Codes and the Committee work were held on May 3, September 15, October, 2000 in Fishkill, Ithaca and Colonie. Two additional forums were held on Long Island (January 30, 2001) and Buffalo (February 5, 2001).

Status reports were provided to the Code Council on June 21 and September 28, 2000. The reports contained recommended amendments, identified conflicts with other


JUNE 4 TECHNICAL SESSION

Harry Kingslow and Chuck Gandy of TVA will present videos and discussion of recent full-scale fire testing that led up to the FM and UL listing of the new EC-25 sprinkler. This Extended Coverage, 14' x 14' = 196 ft², K factor 25.2, area/density sprinkler head can be used to reduce branch line piping in new installations that require a high challenge flow, such as 0.45 gpm/ft² and up. 7-psi end head minimum. Not ESFR.

The fire tests used some very demanding configurations, including 3 ft aisles, aisle storage, and 20-ft. rack storage of group A plastics commodity.

Come see some really big fires that were very quickly and successfully controlled by the newest high challenge sprinkler on the market!

statutes. The Technical Committee reviewing the ICC Building Code were directed at the June

MICHAEL NELSON ENGINEERING MANAGER	
<hr/>	
ROLF JENSEN & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, P.C. FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS	
130 WEST 30TH STREET 13TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10001-4092	(212) 695-6670 FAX (212) 695-6671

FIRE RISK & HAZARD ASSESSMENT RESEARCH APPLICATION SYMPOSIUM

On June 20-22, 2001 at the BWI Airport Marriott, Baltimore, MD, the above organization will be sponsoring a Symposium. David Purser of the Building Research Establishment (UK) will give an extended presentation on recent work at the British Building Research Establishment on toxicity and environmental initiatives. He will also discuss their impact in the British Standards Institute, the European Community, and ISO. In addition, at least 20 papers will be presented, some of which are listed below.

The Keynote address will be given by James Thomas, President, ASTM.

SAMPLE OF PAPERS:

Fred Clarke: "Smoke Production vs. Smoke Hazard"

Jim Convery: "Deciding When a Performance-Based Design Option is Warranted"

Ray Fleming: "Visibility as Egress Criteria: A Review of the Literature"

Pravin Gandhi: "Using Statistical Methods in Determination of Fire Hazards and Risks"

Pravin Gandhi: "Review of UL 910/NFPA 262 Fire Test Methodology for Wire and Cables"

Dick Gann: "Update on International Study of Sublethal Effects of Fire on Survivability and Health"

John Hall: "Who Should We Save? Who Can We Save?"

Jack Watts: "Basic Methods of Quantitative Fire Risk Assessment"

You can download a pre-registration form in PDF format at:

http://www.nfpa.org/Research/The_Research_Foundation/Symposium/symposium.html

And, if paying by credit card, fax the form to (617) 984-7010. For more information on the Symposium, contact Eric Peterson, (617) 984-7281.

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Meeting Dates/Program for 2000-2001

(Programs Subject to Change)

Watch web page concerning cancellation In case of possible inclement weather conditions

- June 4 Discussion on Performance of New K-25 Grinnell/Central Head - Chuck Gandy and Harry Kingslow of TVA - Fire Security Life Safety - will discuss applications and fire tests followed by a short presentation on "Dcreet Smoke Detection" by Robert Hall of RA Hall Associates
ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
- June 18 GOLF OUTING - Beaver Brook Country Club

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.

Summaries of technical sessions found in this newsletter are for purposes of informing those in the chapter that were not able to attend. While we take effort to report on issues brought up in these sessions, one should not consider these brief reviews a full summary of the entire session. These reviews may include the opinion of the writer or what the writer interpreted from the speaker. The speaker has not approved these summaries.

COMMITTEES 2000-2001

Standing Committees

Program:

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Consulting - Nick Chergotis

Arrangements:

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Membership:

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Nominating:

Chair - Peter Rullo
Jim Tolos
Glenn Deitz

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Robert Hall

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Jim Tolos

Archivist/Historian:

Jim Tolos

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PE Examination:

Chair - John Cholin

Chuck Gandy

Joint Seminar/Chapter Seminar

Chair - Richard Reitberger

Pat Egan

Dave Gluckman

Legislative:

Chair - Rich Reitberger

**NY Metro & NJ SFPE CHAPTERS
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

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