



# Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

Editor Fusible Link:  
Brad Hart & Ana  
Crisostomo  
Tel. (212) 837-0827  
Fax (212) 344-3060

**President** – Sarge Slicer – 973-541-6718  
**First V.P.** – Rich Reitberger – 973-541-6776  
**Second V.P.** - Glenn Deitz – 973-822-7396  
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## FUSIBLE LINK

[www.njsfpe.com](http://www.njsfpe.com)

January 2003

### Message from the President

One thing we forgot to do at the end of last months meeting was to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous Holiday season and that we hope to see you all at the meetings next year.

We have had a good year for the Chapter so far and some exciting news that came out of last months meeting is that Assemblyman Paul Sarlo has agreed to help sponsor a bill to have FPE's recognized in NJ. Joe Janiga with help from other Board members is working on this.

We have good interesting programs for the remainder of the year so now all we need is you at the meetings. For the January 6 meeting try to bring a friend or a member who has not attended a meeting in a while. Again, Happy Holidays.

### NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes December 2, 2002

1. The meeting was called to order by President Sarge Slicer. There were approximately 50

attendees and, as customary, all those in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Rich Reitberger introduced our guest, the Honorable John V. Kelly former NJ State Assemblyman and other honored guests from the NJ Fire Safety Committee. Commissioners introduced were Dan DeTrollo, Charles Shilling and Roland Straten.
3. Ed Armm read the Minutes from the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. A motion was made and carried to accept them.
4. Dave Gluckman read the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made and carried to accept it.
5. Sarge advised the membership that the board wished to have them vote on James Stahl, Paul Cacioppo and George Browne as Chapter Supporters and Lance Harry as a Member. A motion was made to accept their membership and carried. Welcome aboard James, Paul, George and Lance.
6. Bob Hall informed the membership that the Fire Protection Research Foundation will be presenting a *Fire Suppression and Detection Research Application Symposium* in Orlando,

FL on January 22-24. Additional information is available at [www.nfpa.org/Foundation](http://www.nfpa.org/Foundation). Bob supplied those interested with flyers.

7. John Cholin advised those seeking to take the PE Exam next year that now was the time to make application and hit the books.
8. An Assembly resolution honoring him with his years of service with the State Fire Commission and the NJ State Assembly Certificate from the NJ General Assembly was presented to the Honorable John V. Kelly by NJ Assemblyman Paul Sarlo, 36th District.
9. Jerry Neylis introduced the Honorable John V. Kelly recipient of the NJ SFPE Excellence in Government Award. Jerry told us that in part the award is being presented to John V. Kelly for his actions in creation and passage of the "Sprinklers in Dorms" bill. However, Assemblyman Kelly has been instrumental in many issues concerning life safety in the State of New Jersey. Jerry served on the NJ Fire Safety Committee with Assemblyman Kelly for 9 1/2 years. Assemblyman Kelly was on the committee for 18 years with 10 as the Chair. In his position Assemblyman Kelly spearheaded the Dormitory Sprinkler Bill with a budget of 90 million dollars. On July 5, 2000, the project was 75% complete and under budget.
10. The Honorable John V. Kelly graciously accepted his award and said he will gladly come back each year to help the NJ SFPE present the award to someone else in federal, state or local government that creates legislative action promoting life safety and our society's principles. The award will be renamed the John V. Kelly Award. Two of our own members were acknowledged by Mr. Kelly, Roland Straten and Jerry Neylis.
11. There was no formal presentation this evening.
12. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

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## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

*More detailed information is contained in previous Fusible Link issues and on [www.njsfpe.com](http://www.njsfpe.com)*

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### **Loss Control Consultant New York City**

P&C carrier in NYC is seeking a Loss Control Consultant to service accounts in the NYC area. Candidate will provide comprehensive risk assessment and technical risk control services. Conduct extensive research, data collection, evaluation and analysis in order to make recommendations to control customer's source of risk. Maintains effective partnerships with Underwriting and Claims teams by providing quality risk consultative services. Ensures accurate, concise communication and completes negotiated services and all customer requirements in a timely manner. The successful candidate must possess a minimum of 5 years experience with a national Property and Casualty insurance company. Knowledge and expertise in property with an emphasis on fire protection evaluation is essential. Excellent marketing, communication and analytical skills are a must. A proficiency in the Microsoft Office Suite software and Lotus Notes is desirable. Applicant should possess a Bachelor's degree, technical/engineering degree is preferred, and professional designations (CSP, CFPS, PE) are a plus. Candidates may contact the Regent Group at [opportunity@theregentgroup.com](mailto:opportunity@theregentgroup.com) and use reference #TRG6322. or write to

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Suite 500  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Phone: 702.892.3740  
Fax: 702.892.3741

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**Aerotek Engineering** is currently seeking a Fire Protection and Sprinkler Designer. The opportunity is located in the Philadelphia Region. This individual needs at least 5 years experience and will be responsible for the design and layout of Fire Alarm systems, Fire Protection Design, and fire detection system layout. They will be using Autocad 2000. The projects range from Pharmaceutical plants to commercial buildings.

Anyone who may be interested should call:  
Sarah Scarlata  
800-813-2353 x4754  
Aerotek Engineering  
[www.aerotek.com](http://www.aerotek.com)

=====  
**Allianz**, an insurance company with premium income in excess of one billion dollars is currently actively and aggressively pursuing hiring an experienced (minimum 2 years) HPR (Highly Protected Risk) Property Loss Control Account Consultant for their Chicago Office. Salary is negotiable dependent upon experience level. Anyone interested can contact:

Kevin Morris  
Engineering Manager  
Allianz Risk Consultants  
PO Box 747  
Warrington, PA 18976-0747

Phone 215-491-4272  
Email [kmorris@aic-allianz.com](mailto:kmorris@aic-allianz.com)

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**Carl Guinta Associates**, Riverdale, New Jersey - Established in 1964 - Has a position open for a P.E. experienced in fire sprinkler design. Position includes supervising installations, writing proposals, reports, design, hydraulics and code work. Requires good communication skills and knowledge of sprinkler design.

Company offers highest pay in industry and position could lead to equity interest in firm. All benefits are included.

Send resume with salary history. All applications will be kept in strict confidence. Positions also open for sprinkler designers without P.E.

Write to Carl Guinta, 11 Mathews Avenue, Riverdale, New Jersey 07457 or E-mail [cga-fpe@worldnet.att.net](mailto:cga-fpe@worldnet.att.net)

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**The Fire Protection Research Foundation  
 Fire Suppression & Detection Research  
 Application Symposium January 22-24,  
 2003, Orlando, FL**

- \* Schedule of Events
- \* General Information

This 14th "Bridging the Gap" symposium brings together the top minds in fire detection and suppression - engineers, code writers, fire officials and researchers - who seek and share practical detection and suppression solutions to day-to-day fire problems. The conference also provides a unique opportunity for detection and suppression experts to learn about common issues and futures.

This year, keynote speaker Dr. Thomas Chapin, General Manager of the Fire Protection Division at Underwriters Laboratories Inc., will offer the perspectives of one who has moved from being a major consumer of fire research and test information to one responsible for providing it. The program includes a special session on new initiatives at major North American fire suppression and detection laboratories, and a special international session on uses of new fire information. There also will be several case studies and new test results suitable for your immediate use in the real world.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS-Abbreviated Agenda**

**Wednesday, January 22**

**8:30 - Welcome**

**Keynote Address**

**William M. Carey Award**

**New Detection and Suppression Activity Around the World**

Fire Research Program 2003

The Evolution of Fire Safety in China

Uses of New Fire Information in Latin America

**New Fire Suppression Measurements and Analyses**

Sprinkler Technology Research for Warehouse Protection

Evaluating Exposure Protection Methods Used In Product Packaging

Spray Characteristics of Fire Sprinklers

Fire Plume and Fire Sprinkler Interaction

Quick Response Sprinkler Sensitivity in Dry Pipe Sprinkler Systems

Automatic Fire Sprinkler Dry Pipe Systems

Fire Fighting Foams Tested Using Typical Petroleum Industry Fuels

New Fire Protection System for Aircraft Hangars

**Thursday, January 23**

New Fire Test Laboratory Resources

The FM Global Technology Center Modernization Project

Large-Scale Fire Testing - a UL Perspective

The ATF Fire Research Laboratory: A New Resource for Fire Investigators

The Development of a New Measurement Facility for Evaluating Thermal Imagers for Fire Fighter Applications

NRC Active Fire Protection Research Program and Recent Projects

Joseph Su, National Research Council of Canada  
Advancements in Commodity Storage Through Testing

**New Measurements and Analyses in Detection and Alarm**

Smoke Alarm Research Project: What Have We Learned?

Studying the Response of Building Systems to Fire Using a Virtual Cybernetic Building Test-Bed

Investigation of Heat Detector Thermal Response Coefficient

Measurement of the Optical Extinction Coefficients of Post-Flame Soot in the Infrared

Measuring Intelligibility

Results of Full-Scale Evaluation of Residential Smoke Detectors

Modeling of Smoke Detector and Sprinkler Activation

**Friday, January 24**

**Special Suppression and Detection Challenges and Solutions**

Pre-Planning: The Key to Successful Emergency Management

Fire Detection, Suppression, and Performance Codes

High Reliability Safety Systems for the Built Environment – Rapid Detection of Fires

Case Study: Application of Performance Based Fire Protection Engineering at the U.S. Capitol

Aircraft Cargo Compartment Fire Detector Certification

David Blake, Federal Aviation Administration Video-Based Fire Detection for Shipboard Applications

Boston's Central Artery/Tunnel Project Fire Protection Design

Case Studies: A Convention Center, an Art Museum, and a Hotel

Corrosion Effect of Hydrogen Fluoride on Electronic Components

**Registration by January 8: \$495**

**After January 8 or on site: \$550**

Registration includes three days of technical programs, refreshments, a reception, and Symposium Proceedings. Please download a Symposium registration

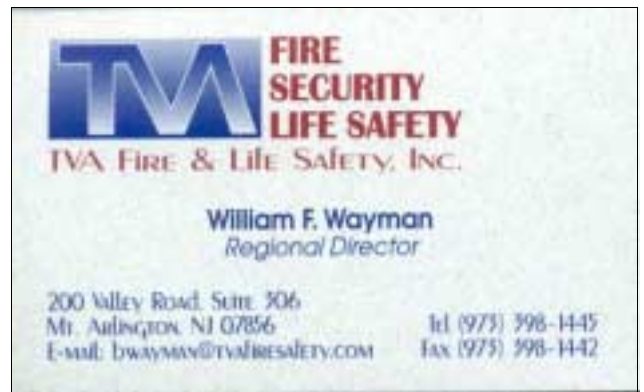
**Conference Site**

Holiday Inn Select Orlando International Airport  
5750 T.G. Lee Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32822  
+1 407 851.6400

For more information on the symposium, contact conference coordinator Eric Peterson:

Eric Peterson, Conference Coordinator  
The Fire Protection Research Foundation  
1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269-9101  
Tel: +1 617 984.7281  
Fax: +1 617 984.7010

<http://www.nfpa.org/Research/Foundation/Symposium/symposium.asp>



**GE-GAP TRAINING SCHEDULE**

GE-GAP has published its 2003 training program on the following subjects:

- **Industrial Property Loss Prevention**
- **Maintaining Fire Protection Systems**
- **Managing Property Loss Prevention Programs**
- **Risk Based Decision Making**
- **Pre-Emergency Planning**
- **Business Continuity Planning**
- **Health Care Property Loss Control**
- **Health Care Property Loss Control**
- **Fire Protection PE Exam Review**

**The Schedule For These Courses Are As Follows:**

**2003 Open Enrollment Course Schedule:**

- **Industrial Property Loss Prevention**  
March 25-26 Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY  
October 28-29 Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY  
(Richmond, KY is near Lexington, KY)
- **Managing Property Loss Prevention Programs**  
Four two-hour live online sessions  
February 18-21 (Tuesday-Friday) 2-4 PM EST each day  
June 4-25 (Every Wednesday) 2-4 PM EST
- **Risk-Based Decision Making**  
Four two-hour live online sessions  
March 6-27 (Every Thursday) 2-4 PM EST  
October 14-17 (Tuesday-Friday) 2-4 PM EST each day
- **Pre Emergency Planning**  
Four two-hour live online sessions  
April 2-23 (Every Wednesday) 2-4 PM EST  
November 18-21 (Tuesday-Friday) 2-4 PM EST each day
- **Business Continuity Planning**

Four two-hour live online sessions  
May 7-28 (Every Wednesday) 2-4 PM EST  
December 2-5 (Tuesday-Friday) 2-4 PM EST

▪ **Fire Protection PE Exam Review**

Fourteen 1.5-hour live online sessions  
July 1-September 30 (Every Tuesday) 2:30-4 PM EST  
July 3-October 2 (Every Thursday) 6:30-8 PM

GAP programs are customized and are available at client facilities.

Coordinated programs for multiple facilities are available. Programs with other training vendors are also available upon request.

**The Cost Of These Courses Are As Follows:**

**Open Enrollment Pricing (does not apply to training at your site):**

Industrial Property Loss Prevention: \$650 per person  
Managing Property Loss Prevention Programs: \$395 per person  
Risk Based Decision Making: \$495 per person  
Pre Emergency Planning: \$495 per person  
Business Continuity Planning: \$495 per person  
Fire Protection PE Exam Review: \$995 per person

**For more details please contact:**

John Frank  
Loss Prevention Training Leader  
Phone: 770-569-7082  
Fax: 770-569-7090

Email: [john.frank@gegapservices.com](mailto:john.frank@gegapservices.com)  
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**TOXIC MOLD – PART II**

In the November 2002 Edition of the *Fusible Link* we discussed the number of toxic mold claims and the growing litigation around this subject. In this article we will discuss just what the organism is, prevention techniques, impacts and the forms that claims have taken.

The following information was taken from the August Crawford Newsletter:

**WHAT IS MOLD?**

Molds are simple microscopic organisms that have existed for millions of years, they can be found everywhere in our environment. There are about 20,000 different types of molds. They are not part of the animal or plant family; a mold is part of the Fungi family. There are approximately 1.5 million species of fungi. Certain types of fungi exist naturally in soils, plants, fruits, textiles and even leather products. Mold is simply the product of reproduction of fungi.

Molds reproduce by making "spores." This is much like a plant that reproduces by making cc seeds." Mold spores are continuously in the air and migrate with the wind, but they can also move through air circulation systems in buildings or be tracked by human beings with dust and dirt.

Mold can settle on virtually any surface. For the most part, they are quite harmless if properly treated and removed at an early stage. But... if three conditions converge there is the potential for a big problem:

1. Moisture (ie., humidity)
2. Heat (i.e., between 35 and 104°F)
3. Nutrients (i.e., building materials)

It is important to realize that fungi will develop mold when exposed to moisture. Generally organic materials can develop mold if they remain wet for 24 to 48 hours. Therefore, it is critical in the removal or elimination of mold to respond quickly to issues of water incursion by repairing or eliminating the source of the water, thoroughly drying all wet materials and removing moisture from the air. The most significant

factor in the control of mold is not the quantity of water but the time the material has been exposed to the water or moisture. If the spores happen to land on a moist (damp) spot where these conditions exist then they can multiply (build a colony). They grow by digesting the organic substance they've landed upon. The types of things they can eat are:

1. Drywall
2. Carpeting/under-padding
3. Paneling
4. Ceiling tiles
5. Insulation
6. Paint
7. Wallpaper
8. Draperies
9. Doors
10. Drains
11. Upholstery

A mold colony does not need light to feed its growth. It also thrives on the lack of ventilation that might be caused by the improper use of humidifiers, home spas, HVAC systems, ventilators etc. These factors all lend themselves to the colonies growing out of sight behind walls, ductwork, ceilings, sub-floors etc. Perhaps this led to the headline describing mold as the "Monster in the Closet?"

### **WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF TOXIC MOLD?**

The answer to this question really depends upon whom you ask!

The asbestosis problem in the United States resulted in clear medical studies that linked bodily injuries and exposure to asbestos. It is not so clear-cut when it comes to linking mold problems with any injury complaints. Some types of mold, particularly those that produce mycotoxins (by products or metabolites), can lead to health problems by breaking down the immune system. Symptoms can present as a runny nose, eye irritation, cough, congestion, and asthma-type problems or respiratory infections.

Many of these symptoms are consistent with someone who has allergies. With 45 million Americans suffering from seasonal allergies one can see how this can cloud the link that is needed to prove that the definitive cause of someone's health problems was solely mold. Obviously it would be critical in any situation where health-related issues are involved to make sure you identify the actual type of mold that is alleged to have caused the problem. As time passes, biological markers will continue to evolve and no doubt it will become easier to eliminate or confirm whether an individual's health issues are mold related.

The initial push on these claims came from three US states - Texas, Florida, and California. It's noteworthy that all three geographical areas experience long seasons of hot and humid climates. Bearing in mind the three conditions that must exist for mold to grow, it makes sense that Canada would not have the same degree of 'exposure' to the problem. However, we must keep in mind that our cold weather combined with the energy crisis(s) has lead to a strong push to making airtight buildings. This can present problems if the building has moisture exposure. So, while we may not have the same degree of the problem that exists in the southern US states, it is still with us!

### **CLAIMS? WHAT FORM WILL THEY TAKE?**

Many of the current mold claims that have been filed are first party losses, where policyholders who have had a water damage claim in the past have recently discovered mold in their buildings. Their immediate redress has been to come back against their building insurer who directed the flow of the building repairs through "preferred"... or... "approved" contractors. Several of the remediation projects have resulted in significant payouts including one situation where the insurer actually purchased the building. Any first party claims will, of course, include claims for punitive damages and we now know the benchmark is sitting at \$1 million (Whiten v. Pilot, Supreme Court of Canada, L001).

The other types of claims being presented are "third party" claims. These are predominantly property damage exposure claims but there is no doubt a strong effort will be made to link a bodily injury component to these claims. This has already happened on a number of claims that have been filed in British Columbia.

The shotgun approach to litigation will lead to many situations whereby subrogation efforts or deflecting blame on a contributory negligence approach will not leave anyone untouched by what's in front of us.

### **WHO IS BEING SUED OR IS LIKELY TO BE SUED?**

1. Sellers of buildings
2. Real Estate Brokers
3. Contractors, including mechanical
4. Sub-contractors
5. Architects
6. Engineers
7. HVAC designers
8. Building owners
9. Developers
10. Property managers
11. Municipal or Provincial government building inspectors
12. Insurers
13. Renovation specialists, including restoration and remedial companies
14. Insurance adjusters
15. School Boards and other public bodies
16. Product manufacturers

### **ON WHAT BASIS ARE THEY LIKELY TO BE SUED?**

1. Faulty design
2. Faulty construction
3. Faulty products
4. Faulty product installation
5. Faulty maintenance
6. Improper remediation work to remove 'mold'
7. Bad faith in handling a first party claim
8. Failure to warn
9. Failure to disclose
10. Improper clean-up or restoration

## Former NJ Assemblyman Kelly Honored by Chapter

Former NJ State Assemblyman and NJ State Fire Commission Chairman John V. Kelly (36<sup>th</sup> District) was named NJ Chapter SFPE 2002 Recipient of the **Excellence in Government Award** at the December meeting. Assemblyman Kelly was honored as the first Legislator to receive the award. Members of both the NJ Assembly and NJ State Fire Commission attended to honor Kelly's 10 years in the Assembly and as Chair of the State Fire Commission. Assemblyman Kelly was influential in many pieces of legislation that affected both the fire service and fire protection communities. Most recently he participated in securing legislation to require automatic sprinklers in college dorms.

The NJ Chapter is also pleased to announce that this award will be named the "John V. Kelly Excellence in Government Award" going forward. Congratulations to Assemblyman Kelly.



*Former Assemblyman John V Kelly (36th District) center, with Rich Reitberger 1<sup>st</sup> VP (l) and Sarge Slicer, President (r)*



*NJ Assemblyman Paul Sarlo (36<sup>th</sup> District) presenting John Kelly an Assembly Resolution congratulating him for his outstanding service as the former NJ State Fire Commission Chairman*





**Michael T. Newman, P.E.**  
**Manager**  
**Property Loss Prevention**  
**Johnson & Johnson**  
**One Johnson & Johnson Plaza**  
**New Brunswick, NJ 08933**  
**Phone: (732) 524-3224**  
**Fax: (732) 524-2196**

**MEETING NOTICE**

Date: Monday, January 6  
Place: Hanover Manor  
16 Eagle Rock Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ  
  
Price: In Advance - \$22 At Door - \$25  
  
Dinner: Prime Rib or Fish  
  
Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar for mixed drinks)  
Dinner at 6 PM  
  
Speaker: Ken Isman, PE, NFSA  
  
Topic: Changes to NFPA 20 – Ken Isman, PE, NFSA

All officers, directors, and committee chairman are requested to attend a meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Hanover Manor.

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**Please note for this meeting:**

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

**Michael Newman**  
**Johnson & Johnson**  
**One Johnson & Johnson Plaza**  
**New Brunswick, NJ 08933**

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ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY **FRIDAY, January 3, 2003**. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.

# MEETING DATES/PROGRAM

## (Programs Subject to Change)

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

Jan. 6	Changes to NFPA 20 – Ken Isman, PE, NFSA
Feb. 3	Tour of Siemens/Pyro
Mar. 3	“Setting Sail on the PBD Ship: Navigating the Morass of Design Liability” - Christopher B. Wood, Senior Fire Specialist from Arup
April 7	Seminar
April	Officer Nominations due to Secretary
	Chapter Anniversary 4/4/77
May 5	Malden Mills Loss, John Cholin, PE
June 2	Gaseous Suppression Systems Update (NFPA 2001 – Phil DiNunno, PE Annual/Election

### \*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 2002-2003

### Standing Committees

#### *Program:*

Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chairs, with input from all members  
Consulting – Nick Chergotis & Chuck Gandy

#### *Arrangements:*

Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chair

#### *Membership:*

Rich Reitberger, Chairman

#### *Nominating:*

Chuck Gandy, Chairman  
Glenn Deitz  
Bob Murray

#### *Scholarship Fund:*

Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Robert Hall  
Mike Machette

#### *Auditing:*

Joe Janiga

#### *Archivist:*

Rich Reitberger (FM Global Library)

#### *Historian:*

Jim Tolos

#### *Communications:*

#### *Fusible Link:* Brad Hart, Editor

Dave Gluckman, Asst. Editor  
Ana Crisostomo, Publishing  
Vicky Serafin, Mailing/Automation

### 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

#### *Awards:* John Ed Ryan

Jim Tolos  
Frank Savino

#### *NY Chapter Liaison:*

Rich Reitberger (Pat Egan back-up liaison)

#### *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

#### *Special Executive Assistant to the Board:*

Vicki Serafin

Fusible Link Editors NJSFPE  
C/o Rich Reitberger  
Affiliated FM Ins. Co.  
400 Interpace Parkway  
Parsippany, NJ 07054