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# Society of Fire Protection Engineers

## New Jersey Chapter

# FUSIBLE LINK

MARCH 2008

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## President's Message



It is with deep sadness to report the recent passing of two of our members - Ted Ventrone and Joe Johnson. We have included a brief biography of Ted and Joe on the next few pages and I dedicate this edition of the Fusible Link to them in their honor.

My thanks to Vinny Fichera for reaching out to Gary Lewis who served as our presenter at last months meeting. We had a very informative discussion titled, "NJ and the IBC – Past, Present and Future." The topic of our March meeting is going to be "Internet Tools and Resources" presented by Rich Reitberger and Todd Vasquez of FM Global. This should be a unique presentation and discussion so I urge everyone to attend.

Finally, our 2008 Technical Seminar is set for Tuesday, April 22 at the Holiday Inn at Newark Liberty Airport. The topic of the morning session will be New Products for Smoke & Fire Detection Systems – Application & Design and the topic for the afternoon session will be New Products for Suppression Systems – Application & Design. This will be a great seminar so register early.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on March 3, 2008.

David Gluckman  
NJSFPE Chapter President

## NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes February 4, 2008

The February meeting was held at the Hanover Manor, our normal venue. Chapter Pres. Dave Gluckman presided. The minutes of the January meeting and the Treasurers report were read and accepted by the membership. One new application for membership was

presented. John Gervato, Asst. Construction Official, Teaneck, NJ applied as Chapter Supporter. John was voted on and accepted by the membership. Gary Lewis, Building Code Official, City of Summit, NJ briefed the audience on the latest information

on the International Building Code. He also covered a brief history of construction codes in New Jersey and where he believes the state is heading in this area and what the code community can expect in the foreseeable future.

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES...

#### Marsh NJ is Looking for Property Risk Control Consultant to Work Out of Their Morristown, NJ Office

##### Technical Expertise

5-10 years of relevant experience. Bachelor's degree in engineering (fire protection or related) or equivalent. Background in fire protection/loss prevention or fire safety in industrial occupancies. Previous industry or insurance carrier experience preferred.

##### Client Service

- Analyzes client needs or project outline and recommends suitable approaches or options to consider.
- Uses facilitative and diagnostic skills to assist clients in the articulation of unusual problems.
- Probes beneath surface issues for concerns or issues that may be unclear to the client.
- Converts or translates project requirements into a work plan within a practice or technical area.
- Selectively matches products and services in own specialty to client's key needs.
- Uses systems to organize and track information.
- Produces creative and effective materials that reflect an understanding of client, project and technical issues.
- Performs tasks on client implementation and measure results.
- Respect and maintain client confidentiality.

- Project Management:
- Follows the continuous risk improvement methodology.
- Suggests and applies objective criteria for measuring important processes.
- Identify and suggest new ways of applying processes and technologies.
- Manage and on occasion develop profitable project budgets, and assist with negotiating changes.
- Participates in the development of pricing of projects and securing appropriate selection of resources.
- Participates in the development and securing of client service agreements.
- Complies with company policy and procedures for timekeeping, expense reporting and billing.

##### Communications

- Develops and deliver effective written and oral communications, such as proposals, technical concepts and deliverables.

##### Additional Responsibilities

Seeks opportunities to develop new skills and broaden and deepen knowledge for yourself and colleagues. Supports and facilitates a team environment of continuous feedback and idea sharing. Participates in

external associations to contribute skills and enhance technical abilities.

##### Team Work

Participates in team planning and implementation activities and openly shares information and own expertise to accomplish group goals.

Travel required (domestic and international travel possible)

Anyone interested in the position should contact:

Joseph M. Piontkowski  
Senior Vice President  
Northeast Zone PRC Leader  
Marsh Risk Consulting  
Marsh USA, Inc.  
300 South State Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
(315) 425-3936 Phone  
(315) 425-3952 Fax

## Fire Protection Engineering Loses a Leader

NFPA Journal online exclusive, *May/June 2007*

By John Nicholson



**Joseph E. Johnson, P.E.**, one of the nation's most prominent fire protection engineers, died June 5 on Hilton Island, South Carolina. He was 92.

According to *History of Fire Protection Engineering*, Johnson, a former member and chair of the NFPA Board of Directors, worked in a variety of positions within the industry. He was an engineer, chief engineer, company president, and chairman of the board for a variety of manufacturers and design firms. "Joe's most important contribution to fire protection engineering was his creation of arguably the first totally fire protection engineering consulting company," wrote D. Peter Lund in his chapter entitled "Individuals Who Shaped the Profession."

Lund went on to write, "It was Joe who saw the need for such a service and, in the early 1950s, founded with Frank Gage, U.S. Fire Protection Engineering Service, Inc. John Babcock, formerly of Factory Insurance Association, joined the fledging firm in the late 1950s as vice president. In subsequent years, the firm was renamed Gage-Babcock & Associates, Inc."

During his influential career that included many of the profession's "firsts," Johnson developed and engineered the first large-scale water spray installations for chemical plants. He also developed the first water spray nozzle especially designed for use in fire protection systems and Johnson proposed the first use of hydraulic calculations for regular sprinkler systems, patented the first on-off sprinkler system, and he pioneered the development of the early warning smoke detection systems and helped developed the standards that guided the installation of such systems.

Born December 12, 1914, in Lone Oak, Texas, the son of Ora and Joseph E. Johnson. He was a graduate of Oregon State College with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He started his long career in fire protection in 1934 in Dallas, Texas as an engineer with Texas Automatic Sprinkler Company where he rose from engineer to chief engineer.

During World War II, he served in the Pacific as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. From 1947 to 1963, Johnson served as president and chairman

of the board of Viking Fire Protection Company in Kansas City.

During his 17 years in Kansas City he met and married his wife Mildred Barker, and they became the parents of three daughters and two sons. He was involved in many charitable organizations including Rotary Club, Boy Scouts, the Boys Club, United Funds, the Salvation Army and was an elder at the Village Presbyterian Church.

From 1964 to 1979, Johnson was president of Pyrotronics Division of Baker Industries in Cedar Knolls, New Jersey. In subsequent years, he served Baker Industries as vice president of external affairs. He retired in 1980, but continued working as a consultant until 1992, including serving on the Board of Cerberus Technologies.

Throughout his life Johnson was most proud of his involvement in industry safety organizations. He was a charter member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers and a member of the National Fire Protection Association. Johnson joined NFPA in 1947 and had been a member for 59 years.

He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1967 where he served as Treasurer from 1972 to 1982 and as Chair from 1986 to 1988. He was also appointed to the Standards Council in 1978 and served there until 1981.

As he began his tenure as chairman of the board of directors, Johnson reflected on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NFPA. "It was my feeling that NFPA's success has been the results of 90 years of dedicated effort by committed individuals," he wrote in the May 1986 issue of *Fire Journal*. "This historic perspective gives me a very good feeling about the future of NFPA. It is much easier to be an optimist when you have personally experienced so many things to make you optimistic. As I begin my service as Chairman of NFPA, I look forward to working with all the individuals who together make NFPA the outstanding organization I know it will be for the next 90 years."

Johnson served with distinction on several NFPA Technical Committees. He was a member of the Committee on Safety to Life from 1980 to 1991 and he chaired its Subcommittee on Building Service and Fire Protection Equipment from 1981 to 1990. He also served on its Subcommittee on Administration from 1981 to 1990. He was also a member of the Committee on Health Care Facilities from 1985 to 1991.

# Ted Ventrone - He Will Be Missed

Ted was a long standing member of our NJ Chapter. His contributions to Property Conservation and the fire protection field were considerable. The following are excerpts from the Star Ledger. The full write up can be found at:

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/B1/20080207/NEWS04/802070338/1039/OBITUARIES>

**WATCHUNG** — Theodore A. Ventrone, 92, of Watchung, died Tuesday (Feb. 5, 2008) at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Plainfield. He was born in Providence, R.I., and had lived in South Plainfield before moving to Watchung 10 months ago.

Ted Ventrone grew up in Providence, R.I., and attended Rhode Island State College, now the University of Rhode Island. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 1937. In December 1937 he went to work for the Factory Insurance Association (FIA) which later changed its name to Industrial Risk Insurers, and is now known as GE Global Insurers in Hartford, Conn. At FIA, Ted was involved in field inspections of industrial plants of all types.

In the years following World War II, Ted worked in a section of FIA that dealt with loss prevention engineering in chemical industry facilities insured by the FIA. The chemical industry was entering a period of major growth at this time and FIA recognized the need for improved understanding of risks in this rapidly expanding industry. Among his colleagues at FIA were William H. Doyle, a founder of the Loss Prevention Symposium (LPS) whose name now honors each year's best presentation, and later on, William J. Bradford, a future secretary and treasurer of AIChE's Safety and Health Division.

Ted left Factory Insurance in November 1953 and became loss prevention manager for the American Cyanamid Company's Calco Division in Bound Brook. The Bound Brook plant was a very large operation in the 1950s, employing approximately 2,000 people. The Calco Division included many other plants throughout the United States, and manufactured chemical intermediates, bulk pharmaceuticals, explosives, dyes and pigments, and other industrial chemicals. Ted was responsible for loss prevention, personnel safety, and industrial security at the Bound Brook plant, and his tasks included safety reviews for operations at all scales, from the laboratory through pilot plant operations to commercial-scale production. His career at American Cyanamid lasted 26 years until his retirement in April 1980.

One of Ted's major contributions to process safety in the 1950s was his recognition of the poor state of

emergency pressure relief systems on many vessels at that time, particularly reactors. In the 1940s and 1950s, long before AIChE launched the Design Institute for Emergency Relief System (DIERS) Ted saw that the small relief devices fitted to many reactors were inadequate to provide overpressure protection, particularly for runaway reaction scenarios. His rule of thumb was that a 1,000 gallon reactor should have at least a six-inch diameter relief device, and larger reactors, a correspondingly larger vent area. Ted was quite pleased to see AIChE establish DIERS in 1976 to address this issue, and develop the theory and technology to safely design emergency relief systems for reactors, and in particular, resolve issues of multiphase flow in relief systems.

Ted's service to the safety community has not been limited to AIChE activities. Among his other memberships and contributions are: ANSI Committee on Fixed Industrial Stairs; ASTM E-27 Committee on Hazards of Materials; Executive Board of the Compressed Gas Association and chair of its Safety Committee and its Sulfur Dioxide Committee; Fire Protection Subcommittee and Task Force on Fire and Explosion Problems in the Chemical Industry, Manufacturing Chemists Association (now the American Chemistry Council); chair of NFPA Industrial Section of Safety to Life Committee and Foam Water Sprinkler Committee; and charter member and Fellow of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers and member and chair of several committees.

An AIChE Fellow, Ted received the 1992 Walton/Miller Award from the Safety and Health Division for his contributions to chemical process safety. At the 2003 AIChE spring meeting, the Safety and Health Division Executive Committee unanimously voted to recognize his outstanding work and many years of service by establishing the Ted Ventrone Safety and Health Division Design Award. This annual award will be given to the student whose design best incorporates inherent safety into the solution of AIChE's Annual Student Design Competition.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Genevieve Scanlon Ventrone, in 2004.





## Pressure Maintenance Pumps (Jockey Pumps)

The following is an article from the US Fire Administration/National Fire Academy dated February 12, 2008.

Most stationary fire pump assemblies are installed with devices that automatically sense a pressure loss in a fire protection system, and start running to supply water or boost pressure in that system. From time to time, though, small water leaks, unwanted pressure drops, or even temperature changes may “fool” the fire pump into starting when it isn’t needed.

To prevent these false starts and maintain the fire pump’s life expectancy, small pressure-maintenance or “jockey” pumps like the one pictured are installed to maintain a relatively constant pressure on the fire protection system. A jockey pump should be sized to make up the allowable leakage rate within 10 minutes or 1 gpm (3.8 L/min), whichever is larger.

Although a centrifugal-type pressure maintenance pump is preferred, NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection* allows a domestic water pump in a dual-purpose water supply system (domestic and fire protection) to function as a pressure maintenance pump.

To assure that the fire pump runs when it is supposed to, and the jockey pump won’t interfere with fire protection, the fire pump sensing system should be set up in this arrangement:

- 1) The jockey pump *stop* point should equal the pump churn pressure plus the minimum static supply pressure.
- 2) The jockey pump *start* point should be at least 10 psi (0.68 bar) less than the jockey pump *stop* point.



- 3) The fire pump *start* point should be 5 psi (0.34 bar) less than the jockey pump *start* point. When additional fire pumps are installed in series, use 10 psi (0.68 bar) increments for each additional pump.

For additional information, refer to NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*.



# Loss Prevention School Seminar Registration

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

*For additional participants, attach a sheet with contact information for each person.*

Module 1	Water Supplies & Sprinkler Systems	1 day	<input type="checkbox"/>	03/31/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	09/22/2008
Module 2	Dry Pipe, Deluge and Pre-Action Sprinkler Systems	1 day	<input type="checkbox"/>	04/01/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	09/23/2008
Module 3	Automatic Fire Pumps	1 day	<input type="checkbox"/>	04/02/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	09/24/2008
Module 4	Maintaining Water-Based Fire Protection Systems	2 days	<input type="checkbox"/>	04/03/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	09/25/2008
Module 5	Fire Detection & Alarm Systems	1 day	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/12/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	11/10/2008
Module 6	Warehouse Fire Protection	2 days	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/13/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	11/11/2008
Module 7	Sprinkler Plan Review	2 days	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/15/2008	or	<input type="checkbox"/>	11/13/2008

1 day = \$350  
 2 days= \$680  
 3 days= \$990  
 4 days= \$1260  
 5 days= \$1450

Number of Days: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost per Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chubb policyholders  
 receive a 20% discount*

Registration can be reserved by submitting form to:

Email: [slee@chubb.com](mailto:slee@chubb.com)  
 or  
 Fax: 908.903.7187

*Payment by check or purchase order must be received at least 14 days prior to the seminar to remain enrolled. Exceptions can be requested by contacting Sam Lee at [slee@chubb.com](mailto:slee@chubb.com) or 908-903-7172.*

To complete enrollment, submit the form and payment to:

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- Enclosed sprinkler activation area
- 2 wet pipe sprinkler risers
- 2 dry pipe sprinkler risers
- 2 interlocked pre-action sprinkler risers
- Deluge valve riser
- Cycling on/off sprinkler riser
- Fire detection devices: infrared, ionization, photoelectric, thermal, ultraviolet
- Indoor and outdoor fire hydrants
- Electric booster fire pump
- Diesel vertical turbine fire pump
- Playpipes
- Fire hoses
- Pitot gauges
- Rolling steel fire door
- Portable fire extinguishers

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety awards continuing education credit for these modules, toward maintaining Fire Inspector and Fire Official certification as part of the Uniform Fire Code.



For more information, contact Sam Lee at [slee@chubb.com](mailto:slee@chubb.com) or 908-903-7172, or visit [www.chubb.com/lcu](http://www.chubb.com/lcu)

**AT A GLANCE**

Chubb Loss Control University offers a modular training series for fire protection. It provides a comprehensive understanding of property conservation methods; the latest codes, standards and regulations; and best practices for selecting, testing and maintaining fire protection systems.



Each module is either one or two days in duration. They can be taken individually or together — they are offered sequentially in 5-day blocks. The cost of a one-day module is \$350 and the cost of a two-day module is \$680. Discounts are offered when enrolling in multiple modules, based on the total number of days:

1 day	\$350
2 days	\$680
3 days	\$990
4 days	\$1260
5 days	\$1450

Chubb policyholders, appointed agents and brokers, code enforcement officials, and fire fighters receive an additional 20% discount.

2008 SCHEDULE		
3/31	Module 1	WATER SUPPLIES & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
4/1	Module 2	DRY PIPE, DELUGE & PRE-ACTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
4/2	Module 3	AUTOMATIC FIRE PUMPS
4/3	Module 4 part 1	MAINTAINING WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS
4/4	Module 4 part 2	MAINTAINING WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS
5/12	Module 5	FIRE DETECTION & ALARM SYSTEMS
5/13	Module 6 part 1	WAREHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION
5/14	Module 6 part 2	WAREHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION
5/15	Module 7 part 1	SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW
5/16	Module 7 part 2	SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW
9/22	Module 1	WATER SUPPLIES & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
9/23	Module 2	DRY PIPE, DELUGE & PRE-ACTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
9/24	Module 3	AUTOMATIC FIRE PUMPS
9/25	Module 4 part 1	MAINTAINING WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS
9/26	Module 4 part 2	MAINTAINING WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS
11/10	Module 5	FIRE DETECTION & ALARM SYSTEMS
11/11	Module 6 part 1	WAREHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION
11/12	Module 6 part 2	WAREHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION
11/13	Module 7 part 1	SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW
11/14	Module 7 part 2	SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW



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Form 37-01-0052 (Rev. 9/07)



LOSS CONTROL UNIVERSITY

**HANDS-ON TRAINING**



- 1 WATER SUPPLIES & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**  
Understanding water supplies and sprinkler system components is crucial to suppressing and controlling fires. Learn proper maintenance and testing practices to significantly reduce the potential for a loss.
- 2 DRY PIPE, DELUGE & PRE-ACTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**  
These systems have additional components and some are triggered by fire detection systems. Learn their unique testing and resetting practices to maintain peak operation.
- 3 AUTOMATIC FIRE PUMPS**  
Fire pumps provide water flow and pressure necessary for an automatic sprinkler system to defend against fires. Don't wait for a fire to find out if the fire pump will operate when the sprinkler system is activated — it will be too late.
- 4 MAINTAINING WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**  
Develop a comprehensive game plan to maintain the operational status of water-based fire protection equipment including: standpipes and hose systems, fire pumps, water storage tanks, fire hydrants, valves and connections.
- 5 FIRE DETECTION & ALARM SYSTEMS**  
Selecting the best choice for a fire detection system, coupled with proper maintenance and testing, can alert occupants, trigger a fire suppression system and advise the authorities, ultimately reducing injuries and damage.

- 6 WAREHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION**  
Unravel the issues behind NFPA standards for protection of storage areas. Learn how commodity class, storage methods and height impact fire protection needs for warehouses.
- 7 SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW**  
Learn to evaluate sprinkler system design based on pipe sizing, sprinkler head selection, occupancy classifications, hydraulic calculations and more. Compare data with consensus standards to determine acceptability.

**HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE**

Participants are given an excellent opportunity to gain the experience needed to successfully operate and manage their own loss prevention program. These programs are truly hands-on, using the latest apparatus and operational techniques. Practical exercises give application to loss prevention theories.

This training series is an excellent program for:

- architects
- authorities having jurisdiction
- facility and maintenance staff
- fire department personnel
- fire protection system contractors
- loss control professionals
- code enforcement officials



# Meeting Dates/Programs 2007-2008

DATE	TOPIC
March 3, 2008	Internet Tools & Resources—Todd Vasquez and Rich Reitberger, FM Global
April 22, 2008	Seminar—The latest in detection technologies
May 5, 2008	Plastic Panels, an Update—Joe Janiga, FM Global
June 9	The Case for Automatic Sprinklers in Habitational Occupancies—Russ Fleming and Vinny Fichera, NFSA Annual Meeting—Election of Officers
June 23	Joint NJ/NY Golf Outing to benefit Scholarship Fund

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Robert Volinski  
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Fax: (973) 541-6909

## MEETING NOTICE

- Date:** March 3, 2008
- Place:** Hanover Manor  
16 Eagle Rock Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ
- Price:** \$26.00
- Dinner:** 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar for mixed drinks)  
Dinner at 6 PM
- Speaker(s):** Rich Reitberger and Todd Vazquez—Affiliated FM
- Topic:** Internet Tools and Navigation for Engineers and Professionals

**Please note for this meeting:**

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 COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "SFPE NJ CHAPTER" TO:

Vicki Serafin  
Affiliated FM  
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C - 3rd Floor  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196  
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

OR PAY AT THE DOOR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2007-2008 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### **Program**

Ed Armm, Chairman  
Consulting - Nick Chergotis & Peter Rullo

#### **Arrangements**

Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

#### **Membership**

John Cholin, Chairman

#### **Nominating**

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Chuck Gandy  
Glenn Buser

#### **Scholarship Fund**

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John Warnet

#### **Archivist**

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#### **Historian**

Jim Tolos

#### **Communications**

Fusible Link—Brad Hart  
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator  
Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

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Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

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Glenn Deitz  
Dave Gluckman

#### **Golf Outing**

Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Joe Janiga

#### **Awards**

Frank Savino, Chairman  
Rich Reitberger

#### **PE Examination**

John Cholin, Chairman  
Joe Janiga  
Mike Newman  
Chuck Gandy

#### **Chapter Seminar/Field Trip**

Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Dave Gluckman  
Joe Janiga

#### **Legislative**

Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Vinnie Fichera  
Jerry Naylis

#### **Finance**

Rich Reitberger - Chairman  
John Cholin