



Play it Forward

Titled from a successful movie, this means to give someone incentive to help others. Hopefully, everyone had a safe and memorable holiday season, that all got their stockings stuffed with the things dreams are made of and the realities of wonderful memories. 2007 doesn't promise us anything and it shouldn't. For those looking for major changes affecting their personal being and wealth, there's one thing my father used to always say to get there, "If you want it, work for it!" In the article below, you will notice that the NFSA is "working for it" for you. We can't do it alone and a 2007 New Year's Resolution to participate in industry promotion will help everyone achieve their personal and professional goals for 2007.

Play it forward, bring it on!

[Annual NFSA Staff Meetings Held in December](#)

The Annual National Fire Sprinkler Association Staff Meetings were held December 4-7, 2006 in balmy Danbury, CT. Approximately 40 personnel from NFSA as employees, consultants, industry promotion personnel and Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association personnel were in attendance. As in previous years, a state of the industry was made and individual departments reported on 2006 activities. The following are some of the highlights presented by the association servicing our members.

President John A. Viniello again opened annual staff meeting with welcome, a few announcements and encouragement that the National Fire Sprinkler Association is THE force in the sprinkler industry. Viniello announced also that **R & J Public Relations** has entered into a contract with the NFSA to enlighten the country about fire sprinklers. His term of "Branding the Organization" featured an identity attached with the association logo making the NFSA the official "Pre Eminent Spokesperson of the Trade." All look for an aggressive campaign promoting the industry.

Other announcements by the president were the appointment of **Karyn Hudgens, NFSA Director of Membership** and **Joanne Genadio-Oxx** as Assistant to the Director of Communications.

Jeanne Kozlowski, NFSA Financial Controller, gave a very positive look at NFSA fiscal positioning. New membership was still called for as the organization needs finances to grow industry interest with the public.

Executive Vice President Russell Fleming gave a quick overview of NFSA intense activities, including NFSA Board of Directors Strategic Planning, Core Objectives, Sprinkler Manufacturer Industry Fund Initiatives, NFSA Elections, NICET issues, Research Foundation updates, NFPA 25, International Fire Sprinkler Association Updates and much more!

Jim “JD” Dalton, Direction of Public Fire Protection, gave a very exciting report on the association’s leadership role in keeping the 2005 Fire Incentive Act legislation alive. JD mentioned the “re-scoring” of the bill that makes the concept much more appealing to the upcoming 110th U.S. Congress. The news reported that the scoring went from a 2.2 billion dollar fiscal impact on the federal coffers to a mere \$884 million over the next ten years changes opinion of the tax incentive. This legislation appears to be very passable and will provide a major market for the retrofit market. JD also informed attendees that the *NFSA Guide to Community Retrofit* was off the presses.

Assistant Directors of Public Fire Protection Vickie Pritchett and Shane Ray gave a presentation of the success of highly touted and promoted **Fire Team USA**.

NFSA Consultant Mike Friedman, reported on the many technical programs the NFSA is presenting nationwide and the success reaching out for NICET preparation.

Director of Training and Education Bob Treiber, gave his presentation on “filling the seats” for NFSA programming. Bob was enthusiastic about new programs to grab the interest of our fire service friends and industry supporters.

Day two started with newly appoint **NFSA Vice President of Engineering, Ken Isman**, gave further reports on tech training, Standards & Codes, Membership Services, Resource Center and Publications. Ken encouraged regional managers to solicit contractors to sponsor Authorities Having Jurisdiction to NFSA seminars. He also explained the NICET process and NFSA’s ability to prep program attendees.

Isman also announced the “NFSA Top Tech” competition and that rules and schedule would be available soon.

Kevin Kelly, NFSA Manager of Codes, gave his report on his membership with the International Code Council, ICC, and the American Water Works Association. Kevin went on to say that participation is needed for the may 2007 ICC Hearings in Rochester, NY. Several issues will need to be addressed and numbers in support are needed. He asked all to encourage ICC members to attend.

Neil Cahill, NFSA Vice President of Labor Relations, introduced **Al Gettler, NFSA Vice President of Industrial Relations** and **Frederic Barall, Vice President of Labor Relations** to expand the department. Al reported Local 669 negotiations are upcoming and that the more contractor members signing onto the NFSA Negotiation team will make the process easier on their behalf. Interested members should check the web site at: www.nfsa.org and clicking onto 669 Negotiations will give updates.

An energetic **Buddy Dewar, Director of Regional Operations**, gave status reports for all 11 regions. There are many like and different issues facing the regional managers throughout the country. With resources within the organization, many of the topics are being addressed with vigor. Buddy reported that by Summer 2007 there will be 14 Regional Managers with the Northeast, Mid Atlantic and Mountain regions expanding.

Director of Communications David Vandeyar, reported on updated *Code of Ethics and Constitution & By-Laws* changes, new NFSA communication programming and introduced **Deb Somers** to address the 2007 NFSA Annual Seminar and Exhibition scheduled for the Red Rock Station Casino in Las Vegas.

New **Director of Membership Karyn Hudgens** gave her first staff report and energetically stated that the NFSA membership roles were going to increase in 2007. She is building an aggressive campaign to inform potential members that it is in their best industry interest to be a family member of the NFSA.

Jim Murphy, Director of Internet Services, informed all of upgraded equipment to enhance On-line programming and server performance.

Industry Promotion personnel from around the country gave local reports about issues affecting their members. Reports were given by **Wally Miller, St. Louis, Kathy Meulemans, Milwaukee, Paul O'Conner, Northwest, Vinny Fichera, New Jersey, Steve Hart, Northern California and Wayne Miller, Southern California**. Similar reports were given by **Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association** regional managers **Gerry Ennis, Matt Osborn, Joe young and Shannon Violo** gave Canadian updates.

The meetings closed with a session on the Top Tech Competition and NFSA employees getting a worthwhile driver training program.

Sprinklers to Be Installed After Nebraska Fatal Fire

All student residence halls and fraternity and sorority houses on the Nebraska Wesleyan University campus will have sprinkler systems installed as soon as funding allows, university interim President Joe Gow said on November 18, 2006. The *Lincoln Journal Star* reported that Gow made the announcement following comments from Lincoln's fire chief that a sprinkler system might have saved the life of 19-year-old Ryan Stewart. The fire began the day before in the second story of the fraternity house, firefighters have said.

Stewart died in an early morning from a fire at a Wesleyan fraternity house that had no sprinkler system. He died at St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center soon after firefighters found him in the burning building. Three other students were critically injured in the Phi Kappa Tau house fire. Aaron McGuire, 20, of Sioux Falls, S.D.; David Spittler, 20, of Elkhorn; and Travis Mann, 22, of Beatrice remained in critical condition this weekend, all suffering from smoke inhalation.

Sprinkler installation likely will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, Gow said. "We'll find the money," he said. "Everyone agreed we need to do it." Four Nebraska Wesleyan residence halls do not have sprinkler systems, and a fifth has sprinklers on its lower level

only. It's not clear whether any fraternity or sorority houses on the campus have sprinkler systems.

For the past two decades, state and city law has mandated that all new dorms and Greek houses have sprinklers, but older buildings are not required to have them unless they're being remodeled. Some former members of the fraternity said that in the months before the fire, fraternity members had discussed renovating and adding sprinklers to the house. "We never raised enough money -- only enough for a little new carpet here and there," said Chad Doane, a former member of Phi Kappa Tau House Corp., which owns the fraternity building.

Fraternity supporters had been working to kick-start a fundraising drive for renovation, said Richard Odgers, a member of the Phi Kappa Tau board of governors. Nebraska Wesleyan officials now say those plans have moved to the forefront.

"It's our No. 1 priority," Gow said.

[Genadio-Oxx Named as NFSA Assistant to Director of Communications](#)

Joanne Genadio-Oxx has accepted the position of Assistant to the Director of Communications effective December 1, 2006. Ms Genadio-Oxx will assist NFSA Director of Communications David Vandeyar with outreach of NFSA operations to members and the public. Welcome aboard!

[A Great Response to Terrible Media Coverage](#)

Michaels will remain closed for some time, though water from sprinklers did more damage than Tuesday night's fire.

This subtitle to an article written where a Michaels store experience a fire in the "basket" aisle. Knowing the materials, spread of fire was imminent to do tremendous damage to the California department store filled with very combustible materials. Here is a Classic reply to the article picked up by Google notice to **Ray Vance, Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers, Inc.**, Florida. The view presented by Ray should be used by every person supporting the mantra, fire sprinklers save lives, property and water.

To My Fellow Life Safety Advocates:

Here is my response to the editor this morning. I strongly urge everyone to respond whenever and wherever you can when such an injustice is "reported" by our news organizations. Feel free to copy and use at your discretion.

To the Editor!

In response to your newscast this morning regarding a fire at the Michael's and the water damage caused by that fire, I find it extremely disconcerting that NO emphasis was put on the fact that the FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM did its job and controlled the fire BEFORE anyone was injured OR the building and its adjacent tenants were lost.

The damage was NOT caused by the water, it was caused by the FIRE! (No fire, then no

water!)

Every time a fire breaks out and the FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM operates, the whole slant of the news article from ANY of the news organizations is how much water damage was caused by the FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM!

It is a gross injustice to blame the FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM for the damage when the sprinkler system performed exactly as it is designed and intended.

Without a FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM, any building in which a fire breaks out could very well be a total loss, not to mention the fact that LOSS OF LIFE could be a part of the conflagration, and then you would REALLY have a news story.

As to the water damage angle, imagine the fire department showing up and dumping hundreds and hundreds of gallons of water a minute on the fire in an effort to even get the fire under control, IF the building is not already too far gone to save. The sprinkler system discharges FAR, FAR less water on the fire AND does so in the earliest stages of the fire and therefore not only controls or extinguishes the fire but "causes" far less water damage to boot.

In addition, the NEWS SLANT that the general public is exposed to represents a GROSS MISUNDERSTANDING on the many benefits of a fire sprinkler system and as such the general public that you serve immediately gets a negative view on the BEST, MOST EFFICIENT, MOST DEPENDABLE life safety system available today.

I respectfully request you educate your news organization and field reporters to the unparalleled benefits of and report positively on the activation of the FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM any time it occurs.

You have a public responsibility to every one of your viewers to give them the most accurate and complete facts regarding the NEWS that you dispense.

For more than 22 years I have devoted my energies to educating as many people as I can to the unparalleled benefits of FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS. Please help me in continuing to do so without have to fight this type of news reporting.

Ray Vance
Chief Engineering Tech.
Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers, Inc.
(407) 656-3030

[NFSA Announces "Top Tech" Competition](#)

The NFSA Annual Seminar Planning and Engineering Standards Committees are pleased to announce that in conjunction with its Annual Seminar & Exhibition scheduled for May 3 – 5, 2007 at the brand new Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada, it will be hosting the finals in the first competition to identify the fire sprinkler industry's top layout technicians.

The "Top Tech" competition will begin in January 2007 with exams being given throughout the country in major metropolitan areas in NFSA's eleven regions. Exams in the region will be established after January 10, 2007. Exams will be completed before February 10, 2007. Top scoring individuals from each of NFSA's 11 regions will be formed into teams to compete in elimination rounds at the Annual Seminar & Exhibition in Las Vegas. A top-tech team from Canada will be qualified to attend bringing a total of 12 teams to Las Vegas to compete for the title of Top Tech. A team of three technicians and an alternate will be sponsored to the Seminar & Exhibition provided a full registration company member accompanies the winner.

Finals in the competition will be held on the exhibition floor on the afternoon of Friday, May 4, 2007 giving attendees the opportunity to root for their favorite team. This event is sure to be a hit and bring record attendance to the exhibition. As such, booth sales have hit record pace. Contest details will be posted here as they become available

[NFSA Booth Space Hot Commodity in Las Vegas](#)

Exhibit booth space for NFSA's 2007 Annual Seminar & Exhibition scheduled for May 3 – 5 at the Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas is one hot commodity. With the exhibition still another five months out, booth space for the show is already 70% sold out. This is the fastest pace on record for any NFSA exhibition. With proven traffic builders like a cocktail reception being held on the show floor opening night for conference registrants and the elimination and final rounds of the industry's first Top Technician contest being conducted in the hall over a two-day period, a recipe is in place to shatter all previous attendance records.

Suppliers interested in making reservations for the rapidly decreasing inventory of booth space should contact NFSA show management at nfsa@epponline.com right away.

[Cell Phone-Do Not Call List](#)

Cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THESE CALLS.... To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222. It is the National DO NOT CALL list. It will only take a minute of your time and will block your number for five (5) years. OR GO TO: www.donotcall.gov.

[Water Purveyors Guide Now Available](#)

The NFSA public water distribution network is one of the most reliable and most commonly used sources of water for fire sprinkler systems. With six model codes now recommending the installation of sprinklers in homes, NFSA has recognized the technical importance and challenges of providing an approved water supply. NFSA now has a Water Purveyor's Guide to assist them in preparing policies for the expansion in the number of sprinklered homes in their jurisdictions. Get your guide at: http://www.nfsa.org/info/Water_Purveyors_Guide.pdf.

[IAFC and NFSA Partners Issuing Guide for Adoption of Residential Sprinkler Mandates](#)

The International Association of Fire Chiefs and the NFSA announced that they are making available a document titled "Residential Fire Sprinklers...A Step-by-Step Approach for Communities." As noted by IAFC President, Chief Randy Breugman, the guide will be available on the web sites of both organizations for easy access by the nation's fire chiefs.

The document is structured in four booklets covering Planning and Research, Preparation, Presentation and Adoption, and Customer Service and Maintenance, Challenges and Appeals. The NFSA is indebted to the IAFC for their support of the project and to **NFSA Consultant Steve Hart and NFSA Director of Public Fire Protection, Jim Dalton**, who worked many long hours to bring this project to completion. Get copy at:

<http://www.nfsa.org/news/articles/IAFCbooklet.pdf>

[Noteworthy Sprinkler Saves](#)

[La Crosse Apartment Fire Quelled by Fire Sprinklers](#)

Another fire sprinkler save has been reported by **Division Chief Jeff Brohmer, La Crosse Fire Department**:

On November 21, 2006 at 4:38pm, the La Crosse Fire Department was dispatched to 1125 State Street for a reported grease fire on the stove. Upon arrival, firefighters found that one sprinkler head had fused and the burning pan of cooking oil had been extinguished. Minor damage was limited to the microwave and a couple of kitchen cabinets. The owner estimated the damage at @\$3000.00. The tenant had left the pan of cooking oil heating on the stove and went outside to start his grill. The tenant could not believe on how fast the fire sprinkler activated and how quickly the fire was extinguished.

Without the fire sprinkler system, the fire would have caused thousands of dollars in additional damage and could have easily spread into the apartment upstairs. The tenant went home for the Thanksgiving holiday and when he returns on Sunday evening, he will be able to occupy the apartment and not have to try and find another place to stay.

"I've seen a lot of fires like these end up destroying all of the cabinets and spreading through the whole apartment, leaving thousands and thousands of dollars in damage," Brohmer said. In this case, however, a sprinkler system was installed when Gerrard Corp. built the 14,500-square-foot apartment complex. But such safety measures are not required by state or local ordinances, and therefore not included in many multi-unit buildings, Brohmer said.

The state Department of Commerce is considering a proposal to require all residential multi-family dwellings be protected by sprinklers. Brohmer said this fire, which turned out to be very minor, is a prime example of why that change is needed. "If this passes, it's going to make Wisconsin so much safer," he said. "This will save lives, reduce property losses and help with insurance costs."

[Sprinkler system saves woman](#)

Geneva fire officials are crediting a residential sprinkler system for saving a woman Sunday afternoon during a townhouse fire. Rescue crews were called at 2:18 p.m. Sunday to 2195 Vanderbilt Drive for a second-floor fire. By the time they arrived, the fire was put out by the sprinklers, which are mandatory in Geneva for multifamily structures, such as townhouses.

“That sprinkler saved her life,” said **Geneva Fire Chief Stephen Olson**. Fire officials said the blaze caused about \$5,000 damage and likely was caused by “careless use of smoking materials.” Olson said Monday the cause was still under investigation.

The woman was taken to Delnor-Community Hospital. The St. Charles Fire Department also assisted Geneva crews Sunday.

[Sprinkler Saves - WE NEED THIS INFO TO HELP PROMOTE THE INDUSTRY!](#)

Contact me **A.S.A.P. at (262) 245-5255 or e-mail: dannfsa@aol.com** if you have information regarding a Major Fire or Sprinkler Save. A major fire is defined as “one where there is extensive property loss, multiple death or injury to citizens or firefighters, or any other significant circumstances regarding fire sprinkler protection or lack thereof.” Our goal when the appropriate fire scenario occurs is to influence immediate post-media coverage regarding the application of fire sprinkler protection, or lack of protection.” Sprinkler Saves will help inform others that the systems do work and will provide life and property saving values.

When forwarding information of a major fire include; date, time, city, state, address, sprinkled, non-sprinkled, injuries, deaths and any other fire related particulars that may be available. Also, contact me if your company replaces a sprinkler head(s) due to activation by fire.

[NFSA ENGINEER OF THE DAY –Some of Your Competition is getting Great Advice!](#)

The NFSA Engineering Department has established a new email address for requests of the Engineer of the Day. The new address is_eod@nfsa.org. Don't miss this opportunity to change your bottom line!

The National Fire Sprinkler Association has for over a year offered the “Engineer of the Day” service to its' membership. Every business day, a member of the NFSA Engineering Department is assigned the duty to handle incoming technical questions of the day. The rotation assignment is scheduled so that all members of the engineering division have an opportunity to interface with the membership and this service shares the load of more than 1200 requests for assistance that occurred in 2004.

The average time between receiving the request for information and sending out the response by phone, fax or email was one-third of a business day. Phone call requests are handled by a return phone call, email requests by a return email and faxes by a return fax. In order to ensure that the request is handled as quickly as possible, members should send the request in the correct manner.

This service has been an outstanding success as members are receiving timely information that significantly helps throughout the entire fire sprinkler engineering/contracting discipline. You can check-out NFSA Engineer of the Day at their website and read what our members are saying about this invaluable service. (<http://www.nfsa.org/news/articles/eodnews.pdf>)

For more information, contact: NFSA, PO Box 1000, Patterson, New York, 12563; by telephone at (845) 878-4200, by Fax at (845) 878-4215 or at our website: www.nfsa.org

[Need an Ordinance? Check this Process](#)

If you are looking for the prototype ordinance, go to the web. Start by entering this: www.municode.com. The click "online library", pick state then pick a community you know has ordinances that favor sprinkler protection. For a quick look at some also go to the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board site at: www.firesprinklerassoc.org and go to the Square Foot Upgrades by Town button.

[NFSA Academy Trains You at Your Desk](#)

To answer the call for a quality distance-learning program, NFSA has introduced the **NFSA Academy**. With 80 modules to pick from, dealing with beginner to advanced training, the Academy has something for everyone! Save on lost billable hours and travel expenses by getting your continuing education needs right from your own desktop. Log onto www.nfsa.org and click on the banner below and sign up for the NFSA Academy, your competition is! ***Wisconsin contractors, get your CEU's here!***

[NFSA Project Management Class Scheduled for February-Don't Wait, It's Nearly Full!](#)

By popular request, NFSA's Project Management 2-Day Program will be presented in Countryside, IL at the William Tell Inn February 27-28, 2007. This program has a great agenda and promises to help contractors reach a bolder Black bottom line.

The full program begins with a one-day in-class instructional seminar, 7 ½ hours of contact time. This is followed by six weeks of self-directed study and mandated mail-in assignments. The program concludes with another one-day, 7 ½ hours contact time, in-class instructional session. Each participant is provided with a complete reference book and safety manual.

Audiotapes to be utilized in the self-directed study between in-class sessions are supplemental material, with interesting case studies and examples. They are used in conjunction with text to help the participant analyze their company operations, strengths and deficiencies, and to recommend corrective actions.

[NFSA Advanced Technical Training Program in Chicago Next July](#)

The NFSA has also scheduled the **3-day Advanced Technician Training Class** for **July 24-26, 2007** at the William Tell in LaGrange. This three-day seminar has been developed for fire sprinkler layout and detail technicians that have two to three years of experience. The purpose of the seminar is to assist individuals that are currently holding

NICET Level 2 certifications (Fire Sprinkler Layout and Detail Subfield) in advancing their careers by reviewing material necessary for Level 3 and Level 4 certification. This includes calculating loops and grids by hand to enhance the technician's understanding of the reports produced by computer software and improve quality control. This also includes performing Velocity Pressure Calculations by hand.

ILLINOIS

Countryside FPD is Named Defendant in Challenge to 13D Ordinance

The **Countryside Fire Protection District** has been served as plaintiff by notice of lawsuit against their NFPA 13D ordinance requiring all new 1- & 2-family homes to be protected with fire sprinklers. The suit challenges the March 18, 2004 community decision to adopt by ordinance. The defendants in the case are listed as Alan J. Legood, Wojciech Kuras, Linda L. Estka and Wojciech Marzec and counsel represented by Attorney Larry M. Clark.

It has been anticipated that this action was forthwith but coming to St. Charles first because of their same legislation. The defendants, although not identified are apparently representing the homebuilders. The crux of their case reads as follows:

There exists no genuine issue of material fact precluding the court from determining whether the Plaintiffs had the authority to enact "An Ordinance to Adopt Fire Protection Code for the Countryside Fire Protection District" as it was adopted.

The suit goes on to validate their challenges with issues about the International Fire Code, statutory rights and much gibberish to cloud the issue of the district's intent, FIRE SAFETY TO THE DISTRICTS CITIZENS!

The **Northern Illinois Chapter of the NFSA** has requested National **Fire Sprinkler Association SWAT** (Sprinkler Watch Attack Team) assistance. The **Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board** was a key player in properly educating the district and the elected officials to make such a decision. The NFSA SWAT has the suit and has analyzed its intent and will be consulting with the legitimate parties to stave off the suit. It is anticipated that the homebuilders will be attempting to file in more communities. There are 39 13D Communities in the Greater Chicago area. This litigation may have major impact, keep tuned!

JCAR Issue with Contractor License Act Still Unresolved

The State of Illinois Joint Committee Administering Rules (JCAR) has reversed legislative action based on misinformation. NICET Level III Layout Technicians will have to formally wait to submit plans to authorities with the action. NICET administration responded to inquiries regarding the ability of NICET technicians designing sprinkler systems. They did so correctly by establishing the criteria that NICET technicians cannot submit or stamp those plans. Had NICET gone to the next step by stating that NICET Level III technicians can submit shop or working drawings, the issue would have

supported the legislation the Chapter had successfully gotten through the legislature with the governor's approval.

The group will be attempting to gather in Chicago to get all parties, the State Fire Marshal, JCAR, NICET and the industry representatives. It is anticipated this meeting will identify the specifics to allow the proper administration of rules.

Wisconsin

Commerce Building Code Revision for Multifamily May Have Hearing Late Fall

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce (DOC) had scheduled the public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of the International Building Code for December 21, 2006. There was confidence that the most restrictive code will make it through the proceedings even with the homebuilders raising arguments against it.

A headstrong coalition has been formed with the Wisconsin State Fire Service. The state fire chiefs, fire inspectors, unionized and volunteer firefighters have all made efforts to support the industry in this effort. Leading the coalition charge is **Martin Schreiber & Associates, specifically Annie Early**. Annie has been very instrumental in getting parties together and assisting the DOC with information crucial to the cause.

Press release supporting both sides had been circulated with the **Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety** being the vehicle to get the pro message to the media.

A positive response by witnesses to the DOC means that all new three-family or greater buildings in the state will be required to be protected with automatic fire sprinkler protection. Present law states that more than 21 units is the trigger. The final package will be presented to the state legislature early the next legislative session.

Golden Mast Cited for Safety Violations, Working Sprinklers needed, State Says

Weissgerber's Golden Mast, a fixture on Okauchee Lake for decades and one of four restaurants owned by the Weissgerber family, has been ordered to immediately shut down one public area of the sprawling restaurant and banquet hall complex because it has only one exit. "We've told them to cease and desist using that portion of the building immediately until they can provide for a code-compliant exit," said **Ronald L. Buchholz, deputy administrator of the state Department of Commerce Division of Safety and Buildings**.

Inspectors found an incompletely installed sprinkler system with sprinkler heads visible in some ceilings but not connected to a water source. Other areas of the facility lacked fire sprinklers entirely. "The building is of such size and capacity that it's required to be protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system," Buchholz said. "That needs to get done as soon as possible."

The facility has been remodeled over the years, and additions were built. Weissgerber had received extensions of deadlines for completion of some of the fire and safety work, including having the entire complex protected by a sprinkler system and installation of

the elevator, Buchholz said. Deadlines expired years ago. Those extensions expired four to six years ago, he said

Buchholz said the state's inspection of the Golden Mast last week was prompted by a recent fire inspection by Okauchee Fire Chief George Harvey, who reported to the Town Board that because of the lack of a working sprinkler system, there was a "very large life and fire hazard."

Town Supervisor Tom Martin made public the fire chief's report, and in memos to fellow supervisors questioned whether the Golden Mast should be closed to protect patrons. Tuesday, Martin said he was glad the state had stepped in to work with Weissgerber to get the Golden Mast in compliance with building codes. "This is a safety issue," he said. "I'm happy that they looked at it. I'm grateful that the problem will be rectified."

[NFSA News](#)

Check the NFSA web site, www.nfsa.org, for more information on these valuable industry issues. The topics may save you money or they may put money in your business.

[Sprinkler Pre-Op Survey-Help Us Help Protect the Integrity of the Industry-Help Us Help the Industry](#)

[Contractor's Forum Email Program Helpful for NFSA Members](#)

[NFSA Adds NFPA 13 Update Seminars to Sprinkler Academy](#)

[Inspection and Testing Certification Review Seminar](#)

[APS – Foremen and Construction Supervisors-Contract Programs- In Today's Industry Environment, You Need an Advantage and We Have it for You](#)

[NFSA Online Interactive Seminars Schedule - *Get Wisconsin CEU's](#)**

The first of the 2006 On-line Technical Seminars have been scheduled. All seminars are conducted by NFSA staff or consultants on Tuesdays and will start promptly at 10:30 A.M. Eastern Time and run approximately 1.5-hours. Seminar topics are designed to different levels of understanding, Basic (B), Intermediate (I) and Advanced (A) levels. There are several seminars that cross two levels.

NFSA Member Cost: \$125.00* per seminar per computer

Non-member Cost: \$250.00* per seminar per computer

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$25.00

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$50.00

The On-Line Seminars have been approved for 1.5 –hours CEU credit in Wisconsin. This is monumental because those needy contractors/fitters not finding the availability to get away from the workplace or jobsite will find this opportunity quite convenient. From the desktop of an office or the comforts of a home, one can watch the 1½-hour live-interactive seminar and receive credit. When registering for the seminar, the registrant needs to inform the NFSA that they are in need to receive Wisconsin CEU's. *Those*

needing CEU's for their 2004 license need to have their 12-hours of CEU's completed and submitted prior to March 30, 2004. We can help! **NFSA is offering to all AHJ's the member rate for these live on-line seminars. Order all 10 and save 30%. For more information on this offer and information on these seminars contact Dawn at Dawn@nfsa.org or 845-878-4200 x133.**

NFSA to Launch "Business Thursday" Online Seminars

Building on the success of the "Technical Tuesday" online seminars that the NFSA has been conducting for many years, the NFSA has presented a series of "Business Thursday" online seminars for the second half of 2006. Aimed at the contractor or project manager rather than the technician, these seminars will follow the same format, starting at 10:30 am Eastern time and continuing for 1 to 1-1/2 hours. The schedule of dates and topics is as follows: Information and registration for this seminar series is available at www.nfsa.org

You can attend a NFSA Seminar without traveling to a classroom. For more information and to view a demonstration, visit our Website at www.nfsa.org, or call Dawn at (845) 8784200 x 133. Check these on-line programs:

**SIX WEEK ON-LINE PROGRAMMING:
NEW HYDRAULICS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS,
PUMPS FOR FIRE PROTECTION
RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS HOMES TO HIGH-RISE
INSPECTION, TESTING & MAINTENANCE OF WATER BASED FIRE PROTECTION
SYSTEMS**

NFSA Midwest Regional In-Class Seminars

1/2- Day Basic and 1/2 – Day Advanced Seismic Seminars have been scheduled for March 9, 2007 at the William Tell Inn in Countryside. With new building codes including seismic bracing, this class offers insight for layout design professionals.

The McFarland, WI Fire Department is co-sponsoring Two-Day Overview Of NFPA 13 & Plan Review and One-Hydraulics For Fire Systems seminars March 27-29, 2007 respectively. Get Wisconsin CEU's for attending.

Your Regional Manager is looking to schedule 2007 programming, **Contact Dan Gengler (262) 245-5255 or dannfsa@aol.com** for information or registration. Check the NFSA web site to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

Contact Mike Repko, NFSA @ (845) 878-4200 ext. 120 for information or registration for any NFSA training program. Check the NFSA web site, www.nfsa.org, to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

Special Discounts:

Register 5 Attendees for One Class; get a 6th Free for that Same Class.

Non-Member Fire & Building Officials:

When a building or a fire official wants to take an NFSA “full-day in-class” seminar, they can get a special discount package that pays for the seminar and also gives them a one-year membership in the NFSA. The regular seminar fee is \$99.00 dollars and the regular one-year subscriber membership is \$85.00 dollars. That totals \$184.00 but when you join the NFSA as a subscriber member when you register for the NFSA seminar, you only pay a combined fee of \$149.00 dollars which saves you \$35.00 dollars on the total package.

Just make sure you check-off the “F&B” box with red pricing on the seminar registration form.

By becoming a member and taking an NFSA seminar all at the same time, you’re getting valuable industry information both ways.

NFSA Honor Role

Miller Sales, Inc.
Addison, Illinois
(1/03/03) 4 years

Nelson Fire Protection Company
Rockford, Illinois
(1/04/01) 6 years

Universal Fire Protection Ltd.
Downers Grove, Illinois
(1-01-80) 27 years

Viking Supply Net
Geneva, Illinois
(1/10/65) 42 years

Thanks for your industry support!

NFSA Annual Seminar and Exhibit

NFSA is pleased to announce that its 2007 Annual Seminar & Exhibition, May 3 through 5, will be held at the brand new Red Rock Resort & Casino in fabulous Las Vegas, located at 11011 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89135 (West of Interstate 15 at Charleston Blvd. & County Highway 215). Hotel ph: (702) 797-7777 – Hotel reservations ph: (866) 767-7773.

We are expecting the largest trade show in the industry. If you want your product or service advertised, get your reservation for a table in early as we are expecting a sell out.

Why send your management team to this important event? It will be the best opportunity for your management team to get valuable insight and world-class training not otherwise available. There will be special workshop tracks for purchasing agents, designers, engineers, superintendents and chief officers have been scheduled. Their attendance will also influence the practical design, use and application of the products and services you use the most – putting your company on the leading edge in today’s competitive market.

To encourage maximum participation at the annual seminar and exhibition, NFSA is offering a special discounted registration fee of only \$150.00 (following two registrations from the same company at full fee). Fire sprinkler contractors who meet either of the following two criteria are eligible for a 50% discount on full conference registration:

A. Your company was represented at all five of the last NFSA annual seminars, (1) Las Vegas, NV, in 2002, (2) Savannah, GA, in 2003, (3) Maui, HI, in 2004, (4) New York, NY, in 2005, and (5) Southampton, Bermuda, in 2006; or

B. Your company has not participated in a NFSA Annual Seminar since 2004 in Maui, HI.

**NFSA Annual Seminar & Exposition
Red Rock Station Resort Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
May 2-5, 2007**

**NFSA Annual Seminar
Atlantis Paradise Island
Bahamas
May 14-17, 2008**

Registration materials for the 2007 conference are available at www.nfsa.org

[NFSA Code of Ethics Preamble](#)

The members of the National Fire Sprinkler Association recognize that their work has a direct, as well as indirect, impact on the quality of life for all humanity. Accordingly, the services provided by NFSA members require honesty, impartiality, fairness and equity, and must be dedicated to the preservation of life and property and the further enhancement of the public safety, health and welfare. In practice of their profession, members of the National Fire Sprinkler Association must maintain and constantly improve their competence and perform under a standard of professional behavior, which requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct with balanced regard for the interests of the public, clients, employees, colleagues and the greater fire protection community they serve. Members of the National Fire sprinkler Association are expected to act in accordance with the provisions of this code of ethics and all applicable laws, and actively encourage others to do the same.