



January 2009



Regional Manager

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NEVER FORGET

As events mark our lives, like the Kennedy Assassination, 9-11, the Station Fire and many more, this fire has left an equal indelible mark on our nation. "Never Forget."

Chicago, December 1, 1958, was the scene of the tragic Our Lady of Angels Fire that took the lives of 93 students and three nuns. I remember it vividly as I was a sixth grade student at Immaculate Conception Grade School on Milwaukee's south side. My fifth grade teacher, Sister Mary Tarcisia, was a very stern and strong nun but the day after, she was a total wreck. She had left Our Lady of Angels just a few years earlier and knew many of the students and all of the nuns that didn't survive the disaster.

Many of the readers of this article remember Tom O'Connell. Tom retired as a Captain on the Chicago Fire Department about 1989 before joining the NFSA as Midwest Regional Manager. On more than one occasion he mentioned this fire as his inspiration for fire safety education, legislation and his reason for being an activist. He knew many of the firefighters that responded that fateful day and knew their personal emotional trauma suffered at what they witnessed and survived themselves. Tom's career with the CFD and the NFSA are testament to a man possessed on making the world more fire safe!



Forty some years later as Chairperson of the Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety, I met an interesting new volunteer at our Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youth. He is a man that on 12/01/58 was in the 8th grade at Our Lady of Angels. His classroom was on the third floor. He mentioned that they were instructed to sit and pray at their desks for help. He realized that help would not make it in time to survive, so he opened a window and along with several other students, climbed down the drain pipe from the roof to the play yard, then climbed an 8' fence to safety. He watched from across the street as the rest of his class and the others perished in the fire. He told me he never talked about it and wanted to present the story at the WAFS Fall Luncheon. His catharsis that day was one of the most emotional events I have ever attended. For you see, he replayed the story publicly

for the first time since that fatal day. It was a visit to the past that no one can imagine, much less have to recall numerous nights since that cold December night. That night, we all experienced the horror of 12/01/58.

I saw him four weeks ago at the wake of our good friend who had been the WAFS Burn Camp Director during his week at camp in 2003, nearly 45 years after the fire. At the wake he mentioned a new book, *Remembrances of the Angels* by John Kuenster, that came out on December 1 about the survivors of the fire. It was due for release on the fiftieth anniversary (December 1) in book stores. Anyone reading Michelle McBride's book, "The Fire That Will Not Die" or "To Sleep with the Angels," Kuenster's first book about the infamous fire, would be greatly moved and understand that the fire still rages in anyone who even heard about it. My friend mentioned that his story is in the new book.

Now comes Chicago Alderman Ed Burke on November 30 with a City of Chicago resolution honoring the memory of those lost that day and all of those who will forever not forget or forgive. Alderman Burke is a distinguished and honorable politician who is passionate about his city and the safety of its citizens. I have had the pleasure of working with Alderman Burke on several fire sprinkler pieces of local legislation.

I received a number of responses to the email that were sent on this topic about where they were like those mentioned above. That fire still burns and when those who fight advancing the building codes by adding fire sprinklers understand the length of pain that people must endure, they may second guess their opposition to America's fire problem cure. Check these sites for more:

<http://cbs2chicago.com/local/our.lady.of.2.877625.html>, <http://www.olafire.com/>

Some trivia about Michele: She was supposed to go to a book signing in Los Angeles soon after the publication of her book. On the morning of her book-signing the publicist called and told her to cancel due to some sort of conflict. Her scheduled flight was the United DC-10 that lost an engine and crashed soon after take-off from O'Hare Airport; her seat was empty (she escaped death twice). Unfortunately, she passed away in 2001; two months before 9/11/2001. She never had to see the horror of that "Never Forget" tragedy.

Appeals Board Upholds Fire Sprinkler Requirement -

ICC Appeals Board Denies Homebuilders' Claim

Public safety advocates cleared a significant hurdle on the path towards having new homes protected with fire sprinkler systems when a special committee of the International Code Council voted unanimously to reject an appeal of recently approved residential sprinkler requirements. The appeal was filed by the National Association of Home Builders.

The requirements, slated for inclusion in the 2009 edition of the International Residential Code, follow a September meeting where ICC's voting governmental members overwhelmingly supported Proposals RB64 and RB66 to require fire sprinklers in all new one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses. The IRC is a model code that regulates new home construction in 48 states plus the District of Columbia.

NAHB's appeal had asked ICC to set aside the vote because of claimed procedural irregularities, including an assertion that firefighters, who had been credentialed by ICC as voting governmental members, should not have been permitted to vote in the ICC process. ICC's Appeals Board conducted a public hearing on behalf of the ICC Board of Directors, where interested parties were permitted to provide input on the merits, or lack thereof, of NAHB's claims.

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The Appeals Board affirmed that the IRC's new fire sprinkler requirements resulted from valid actions of the ICC membership, and a recommendation to reject the appeal.

"The success of this effort reflects the commitment of many individuals and organizations who share a common belief that injuries and deaths associated with home fires are preventable through the use of residential fire sprinkler systems," said Ronny Coleman, President of the [IRC Fire Sprinkler Coalition](#). "We applaud the ICC Appeals Board for their ability to focus on the facts and render the proper response."

ICC Board of Directors Unanimously Upholds Residential Sprinkler Requirements 2009 International Residential Code Will Require Residential Fire Sprinklers

The International Code Council (ICC) Board of Directors met in Las Vegas on December 19, 2008 and has voted unanimously to reject an appeal by the National Association of Home Builders seeking to remove residential fire sprinkler requirements from the 2009 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC).

This action, which follows a unanimous vote by the ICC Appeals Board to reject the appeal, concludes ICC's appeals process and exhausts the final administrative option for overturning the IRC sprinkler requirements prior to publication of the 2009 edition.

"This is truly a great day in the history of fire safety," said Ronny Coleman, President of the IRC Fire Sprinkler Coalition. "ICC has now officially affirmed that the membership vote to require fire sprinklers in new homes was in compliance with their bylaws and regulations governing code development, and the unanimous vote by their Board of Directors removes any shadow of doubt regarding the legitimacy of the fire sprinkler requirement."

With the appeal rejected, ICC will now proceed with publication of the 2009 IRC, which serves as the basis of regulation for new home construction in 48 states plus the District of Columbia. The new code will require fire sprinklers in all new townhouses, effective immediately upon adoption, and in all new one- and two-family dwellings, effective January 1, 2011.

2008 NFSA Staff Meetings

NFSA President John Viniello greeted Regional Managers and staff at the NFSA Offices in Patterson, New York and at the Danbury Plaza Hotel located in Danbury Connecticut on December 9-10 during the Semiannual Regional Managers Meetings. Also in attendance were NFSA Chairman of the Board Gregg Huennekens and Vice Chairman of the Board Dennis Coleman. This was the first meeting in recent history when both the Board Chairman and Vice Chairman have attended.



President John Viniello and Vice President Russ Fleming welcome NFSA Regional Managers and staff.

The meetings featured reports from President Viniello and department directors. They included presentations on the "Game Plan" for 2009, the IRC, public education, financial status, building code updates, training and education, membership and many other reports and valuable updates including presentations from Industry Promotions Representatives from around the country.

Top Tech Competition 2009

Due to the overwhelming response the NFSA Top Tech Competition received at our 2007 Annual Seminar & Exhibition, NFSA is proud to announce that we're gonna do it again! Sharpen your pencils, brush up on NFPA 13, memorize your pipe to fire pump size ratios and get ready to be named the Top Sprinkler Design Technician in the country!

The competition will begin in January of 2009 with exams being given at numerous locations around North America. The exams will be open book and will test your knowledge on the application and use of NFPA 13. There will be three parts to the exam: multiple choice/short answer, performing hydraulic calculations by hand and a sprinkler layout within a building plan.

The top three scorers in each region of the country will form a team (no more than one person from each company) representing that region at the NFSA Annual Seminar & Exhibition at the Omni ChampionsGate in Orlando, Florida on April 29-May 2, 2009. The NFSA will provide a small stipend to offset some of the travel costs and will provide free two-day registrations so that the winners can attend the seminar and enjoy all the exhibition has to offer. Teams will be assembled from each of the 14 NFSA Regions and from Eastern and Western Canada.

Once at the Annual Seminar & Exhibition, the teams will face each other in an elimination tournament in a game show format competition until there is only one team left standing. That team will be declared the "Top Tech Team for 2009" and will win some awesome prizes and, more importantly, the admiration of their peers and recognition at the NFSA Annual Seminar & Exhibition as the best Design Technicians in the country.

So, what do you say? Think you've got the grey matter to compete against the sharpest minds in the industry? Contact Mike Repko, our Top Tech Coordinator, at www.toptech@nfsa.org or (845) 878-4200 x120 for more information or to sign up to take the exam to qualify for the Regional Teams. Once you've signed up, your name will be passed on to the NFSA's Regional Manager (or to CASA for those of you in Canada) who will contact you and let you know when and where the qualifying exams will be given in your region. Find detailed registration information, rules and regulations at "Top Technician" link at the NFSA website, www.nfsa.org. We want to find the best Sprinkler Design Technicians in the country. Is it you that we're looking for?

NRC Report reveals NEW composite floor assemblies in homes fail 67% sooner than in older homes

A new report from the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) states "with the advent of new materials and innovative products for use in construction of single-family houses, there is a need to understand what impacts these materials and products will have on occupant life safety, under fire conditions and a need to develop a technical basis for the evaluation of their fire performance." The results clearly indicate that while these new construction materials provide a structurally sound alternative to solid wood construction, thereby reducing the impact on our environment, they are susceptible to failure in a basement fire situation, far sooner than solid wood construction components used previously.

These new building materials are essential to the protection of our environment and the control of rising home construction costs. C.A.S.A. believes that the combined use of a residential fire sprinkler system and these new lightweight, environmentally sound building products will provide new home buyers with a home that not only meets the performance of solid wood construction but exceeds it.

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C.A.S.A. President, John Galt, stated "with the information in this report Canadian home builders need to embrace fire sprinkler technology and start providing home buyers with this proven level of life safety for their families".

Fires in homes account for the majority of fire fatalities in Canada, 80% of all fire deaths occur in residential properties. The City of Vancouver has proven through their fire sprinkler bylaw that residences with a fire sprinkler system and smoke detectors increase occupant survivability by 88%. In Vancouver, no fatalities have occurred in a residential property equipped with a fire sprinkler system installed to N.F.P.A. 13D since the implementation of their bylaw.

The Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association (C.A.S.A.) welcomes the National Research Council (N.R.C.) summary report on "STUDY OF UNPROTECTED FLOOR ASSEMBLIES IN BASEMENT FIRE SCENARIOS" C.A.S.A. is proud to have been a partner in of this study and looks forward to participating in future studies.

Get a copy of the report here: http://irc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/fr/fph/index_e.html

Gail Minger on Don Imus Radio Talk Show

Gail Minger, a member of the National Fire Sprinkler Association's Common Voices Coalition, was a guest on the Don Imus Radio Talk Show on Wednesday, December 3rd. The Common Voices Advocates work to raise the nation's awareness to the deadly impact of fire. Each of the advocates has first-hand experience with the effects of fire in that they have lost a family member in a fire, or they are a burn survivor themselves. Ms. Minger lost her son, Michael in 1998 in a dorm fire at Murray State University in Kentucky and has devoted her life to spreading the message of fire safety on college campuses through both Common Voices and the Michael Minger Foundation. The Michael Minger Memorial Foundation was established after Michael's tragic death. The Foundation serves to educate parents and students on Campus Fire Safety and to promote better fire safe practices on college campuses around the nation. The Foundation also serves to address needs of students with disabilities to aid in their ability to survive campus fires. The Foundation endorses total campus safety and works to improve all issues related to campus safety. Michael's Foundation has also contributed to scholarships for student victims to help with their education.

2009 Sprinkler Quarterly Magazine Media Kit Now Available

NFSA is pleased to announce that the 2009 Sprinkler Quarterly (SQ) "Media Kit" is now available. SQ is now offering free web banners to qualified advertisers. Be sure to look at all the benefits available when you advertise in the SQ. In these tough economic times, it makes sense to spend your advertising dollar wisely. SQ advertising rates are the same as they were in 2006! How many other national publications can make that claim? More importantly, SQ is the benchmark publication of the fire sprinkler industry. Not only does it contain in-depth articles by leading experts in the sprinkler industry, SQ is the first place NFSA members look to find the products and services they need. To get a copy of the SQ Media Kit or to advertise in the SQ, contact our advertising coordinator, **Joanne Genadio** at Genadio@nfsa.org or call 845-878-4200, Ext 118.

NFSA Sponsors MySafeHome Virtual Web Site

Earlier this year, the non-profit Home Safety Council introduced "MySafeHome.org," an interactive 3-D animation home safety program available on the Internet.

MySafeHome.org allows visitors to explore areas of a virtual house so they can understand where potential dangers might be found in their own homes and they learn tips about how to prevent injury and death.

MySafeHome.org includes a home fire sprinkler system that protects all the living areas in the home. For example, visitors enter the kitchen and watch a single sprinkler extinguish a fire that starts in a toaster. In the living room, they see an animated side-by-side couch fire burn demonstration, showing the results with and without a sprinkler.

Fire is a leading cause of death in homes and fire sprinklers provide life-saving benefit, according to the National Fire Protection Association. MySafeHome.org provides important Information emphasizing how a fire sprinkler system offers the best possible protection.

The Web site also provides other personal injury prevention information including messages on poisoning, burns, choking, falls and electrical shock.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association is proud to be the key sponsor of this new virtual home safety program. An NFSA link is available on the Web site.

Take a virtual home safety tour and discover more information at "www.MySafeHome.org" or access the site through the NFSA-Wisconsin Chapter Web site at www.NFSAWI.org.

New NFSA Resource Center Catalog

From its' beginning in 1989, the NFSA Resource Center was developed to put information about fire sprinklers and related products into the hands of the people who need it. These materials have been used around the world by the sprinkler industry, the fire service, building officials and other authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ's) and fire prevention educators. New materials are constantly being added to the Resource Center that reflects today's advancements in the fire sprinkler industry. If you don't see something you need, then please call us!

You will note in the catalogue that NFSA offers special reduced prices to our members, which include fire sprinkler contractors, suppliers and manufacturers, design professionals and fire, building and insurance officials. **To get a copy** of the Resource Center Catalog, call me at 914-646-3285 or attend one of our scheduled Chapter Breakfasts in the Pacific Northwest where I will have them available for distribution along with our "NFSA Bucks" which can be used to purchase item listed in this catalog.

Sprinkler Saves

No sprinkler saves this month to report but the article below gives MN & WI some incentive.

Last 2 Social Clubs Put in Sprinklers

The last two North Shore (Peabody, Massachusetts) social clubs required to install sprinkler systems have come down to the wire completing the work. Fire Chief Steven Pasdon said the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall and

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the Italian American Citizens Club were the city's last to comply with the Fire Safety Act of 2004, a law enacted in the wake of Rhode Island's Station nightclub fire.

The law requires bars and clubs with capacities of 100 or more to retrofit their buildings with sprinkler systems.

Both Peabody clubs are open under temporary certificates until the sprinklers are inspected, Pasdon said. They are expected to complete work within weeks. Although the law met with resistance because of the cost to clubs, all affected have complied without shutting down, the fire chief noted. "On the Fire Department side, we're very pleased," he said.

Fire officials in neighboring communities said their affected establishments had already installed sprinkler systems. Beverly Fire Inspector Stephen Tanzella said yesterday that all the city's clubs and bars had complied. "It's a good thing," he said. "After Rhode Island, you know, you don't want to see another one of those." Lt. P. James Brooks Jr. said all Danvers clubs had similarly finished work earlier this year.

The majority of Peabody's 11 affected businesses complied with the order or modified their building use so the law didn't apply. The AOH appealed the ruling with the Automatic Sprinklers Appeal Board, but eventually lost. Pasdon gave the AOH and the Italian American club a one-year extension through Nov. 15. He and Building Inspector Kevin Goggin have since extended the deadline through February, the fire chief said. "It's nice to be given the extra time," AOH Treasurer Bill Elwell said.

The club has been slowly raising funds for the sprinkler system and working with its contractor to pay down the \$30,000 cost. AOH leaders initially balked at the law forcing them to install the costly systems. Executive board members were meeting this week to discuss future fundraisers, Elwell said. "We've been stringing it out," he said. "We've raised enough to continue to go forward with it, and we'll just continue to do fundraising."

The sprinklers are installed and function but must be wired into the club's alarm system, Elwell said. "We're pretty much winding down," he said. If supporters wanted to contribute to the club's sprinkler campaign, they could donate on the Web site or call the Lowell Street club.

Kelly McGovern, president of the Italian American club, said the water was turned on this week. All that remains is testing the system. "Everything is pretty much good to go," she said. When she took over as president a year ago, the club was in dire financial straits, McGovern said. The executive board has spent the year fundraising and making upgrades to the Blaney Street club. "Times are tough," she said. "Clubs like ours don't have that extra money." The social club's sprinklers cost \$75,000, McGovern said. Members raised money from two karaoke nights, an indoor yard sale and a show with a Guns N' Roses cover band. "It was one of best nights of the year," she said. The club also raised its rental fees to earn more money.

Despite the challenge of raising the funds, the club president wouldn't think of closing. She hopes the sprinkler system gets the city's approval before her term ends this month.

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.” Sprinkler Saves will help inform others that the systems do work and will provide life and property saving values.

NFSA Expert of the Day You Can Get Great Advice

While most of the questions are answered within a few hours of being asked, there have been instances where the response to a request has been longer than what our membership considers optimal. To that end, we are instituting a series of checks and balances on our end to insure that your request is answered as soon as possible.

You can help us by following one simple procedure. When you have a request that you want answered, please e-mail your request to eod@nfsa.org or call the NFSA at (845) 878-4200 and ask for the Expert of the Day. That way, your request will go directly to the individual assigned the duty that day and we will have mechanisms in place to track it.

Since many of our staff travels extensively, they can't always respond in a timely manner to their individual voice mails and emails. When emailing your requests, we would appreciate if you would use our general email address, eod@nfsa.org, if calling in, please follow the prompt for the expert of the day. These procedures will allow us to insure quicker responses to your questions. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

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. To access the needed information, 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.

MINNESOTA: www.nfsamn.org

Meetings set for fire sprinkler provision

A series of town-hall meetings to discuss a possible new fire sprinkler provision in Minnesota's residential building code were held in December. Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Steve Sviggum hosted the meetings in Rochester, Bemidji and St. Paul.

In September, the International Code Council (ICC) voted to add a provision to its 2009 International Residential Code, which would require fire sprinklers to be included in all new one- and two-family homes and townhouses as of Jan. 1, 2011. Because Minnesota amends and adopts the ICC codes to form the Minnesota Building Code, the state must review the fire sprinkler provision for possible inclusion in its 2009 residential code.

While admitting sprinklers save lives, many building officials who attended a town hall meeting at Bemidji State University said the measure would make homes less affordable and errant sprinklers could cause lots of damage.

The state Department of Labor and Industry, which has jurisdiction over the matter, is gathering input before formally making a recommendation to change the State Building Code, said Commissioner Steve Sviggum.

When the 2009 IRC is published in March, Sviggum will appoint an advisory council to formally begin a public hearing process over whether to adopt the provision into Minnesota code, he said. Until then, Sviggum is holding

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town hall meetings across the state to gain input. The fire service and the fire sprinkler industry are looking for fair representation on the council. “I’ve had comments ... all the way from are you absolutely crazy, on one end, to the other end, it’s about time,” said Sviggum, former Republican speaker of the Minnesota House. “There’s obviously the concerns of safety — not just for the residents of the home, but also for the firefighters who come and try to save that home.”

On the other end is the question of the cost of installing sprinklers, he said, “and some say significant costs. We’ve heard anywhere from \$1.50 to \$5 a square foot, depending upon you’re being in town on a municipal water source system or whether you be out in the country and need maybe a holding tank and additional pumps.”

Contractors “are certainly in favor of safety,” said Howie Zetah of Zetah Construction of Bemidji, whom Sviggum asked to present opposition to the measure. “Safe people in their homes is our prime concern.” Opposition issues are few, said Zetah, “but one of them is timing. Right now, the economic times — we all know what housing does to the market. Right now, it’s driving everything, the trickle-down effect is huge. ... We don’t want to put anything into the cost of a home that’s going to be a deterrent as far as getting that home to be built.”

It’s the opinion of the Headwaters Builders Association and the National Association of Building Contractors “that mandating this issue should totally be an action of the homeowner.” The climate may not be conducive to house sprinklers, which could freeze and burst, Zetah also said, adding that issue happened Tuesday at Laporte School. “Most of the new homes that are built in this area, and a lot of rural Minnesota, are in rural Minnesota. They’re not in the city where we do have city water pressure systems.” Pressure tanks and the pumps add to the costs, he said, bringing it to \$5 a square foot.

But home sprinklers can be installed for cheaper than that, and provide a good means of preventing loss of life and property, said Fire Marshal Dennis Stark of Alexandria, Minn., whom Sviggum asked to speak on behalf of the proposal. Between 3,500 and 4,000 people die annually in the nation from fire, with about 85 percent of them dying in their home, in addition to about 100 firefighters, Stark said. “This is the worst record of all industrialized countries. Fire causes more property damage than any other categories combined, including natural disasters.”

Costs of automatic fire sprinklers in one- and two-family dwellings will be offset by saving lives and property and in lower insurance premiums and construction tradeoffs, Stark said, plus in property tax savings from volunteer fire department operations. He added that the Fire Protection Research Foundation pegs the average cost of installing home sprinklers at \$1.61 a square foot, he said, or about \$3,500 for a 2,000-square-foot structure, or about the cost of a typical lawn irrigation system.

Minnesota since the 1990s has required town homes to include sprinkler systems, he said. “A city’s ability to continue to provide fire protection at a reasonable cost can be greatly improved by this new provision.” Code will require a standard procedure for installing the sprinklers, by state-licensed sprinkler installers or licensed plumbers certified for fire sprinklers, he said. Water supplies as low as 18 gallons a minute are sufficient for the system.

And, other than testing the water flow annually, there is no homeowner maintenance for the system, Stark said. Seasonal homeowners can turn off water and sprinkler systems with the same valve, and turn them back on again with the same control valve.

“The overall flavor was that there would be concerns about everything from maintenance to affordability of homes, that there are concerns about individuals making that choice in their lives as opposed to government doing the harder mandate,” Sviggum said in an interview. “I also want to give enough credence to the fact there is safety involved, both to the resident as well as the firefighter,” Sviggum said. “It’s a balance we’re going to have to strike over the next few months and make a decision at that time.”

Once the advisory council is formed, it will take about 18 months to vet a proposed addition to the building code and it will be up to Sviggum to formally adopt a rule. But, Sviggum said, he has range of options, starting with doing nothing and not requiring automatic fire sprinklers. “It could be non adoption of the ICC recommendation for our residential code ..., to full automatic sprinkler adoption as recommended,” he said, “to the possibility of doing it ... for the more expensive homes to start with until the industry gets built up.” An option could also only require sprinklers where most fires start — kitchens and utility rooms, he said. “We’re just trying to bring that balance of safety and the affordability of people to get into a home.”

WISCONSIN: www.nfsawi.org

January NFSA Chapter Meeting in Rosemont

Those planning on attending the January Wisconsin Chapter Meeting can lock in January 15, 2009 that will be a joint Illinois-Wisconsin session held at Carlucci’s Restaurant in Rosemont, IL. NFSA president John A. Viniello is the featured speaker and will inform the attendees of the “State of the Industry” for 2009. Wisconsin members should have received notices by the time this report is sent.

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

The 2009 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

January 27, 2009 - Unsprinklered Spaces

Kevin J. Kelly, P.E., Consultant

Basic/Intermediate

NFPA 13 allows a number of spaces to go without sprinkler protection including concealed spaces, elevator shafts and under-floor areas. However, special conditions apply and you can’t necessarily leave sprinklers out of all of these spaces in every occupancy. In addition, penalties, such as the increase of the design area to 3,000 sq ft might apply. This seminar will summarize these rules and discuss some of the recent developments such as the discussion over using fire retardant coatings to omit sprinklers from combustible concealed spaces.

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February 10 Tanks for Fire Protection *Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.*

February 24 Small Room Rule *Cecil Bilbo, Jr., C.E.T.*

March 10 Applying the Seismic Load Tables *Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.*

March 24 Copper Tube for Sprinkler Systems *Michael Friedman, P.E.*

April 7 Older Systems and Components *Russell P. Fleming, P.E.*

April 21 Questions on Single Family Sprinkler Installations *Jeff Hugo, CBO*

May 12 Frequently Asked Questions – Part 4 *Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.*

June 2 Hydraulics for Non-Uniform Layouts *Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.*

June 16 Sprinklers and the National Electrical Code *Cecil Bilbo, Jr., C.E.T.*

The topics for the **2009 “BUSINESS THURSDAY”** Seminars have been specifically selected to help the fire sprinkler contractor deal with current problem areas in the business environment. The instructors bring varied backgrounds relevant to the subjects they will be teaching.

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 2008 license need to have their 12-hours of CEU's completed and submitted prior to March 30, 2008. 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 please contact Dawn at Dawn@nfsa.org or 845-878-4200 x133.**

Seminars for Spring 2009 will be listed next month.

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 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 North Central Regional In-Class Seminars

Your regional manager is looking to schedule 2009 programming in a facility near you. Please contact at dannfsa@aol.com or call (262) 245-5255. Check the NFSA web site to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

Check next month for training programs happening in St. Paul, McFarland and Milwaukee.

Contact Dawn Fitzmaurice, NFSA @ (845) 878-4200 ext. 133 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

AnvilStar
Edina, MN
(1-19-95) 14 years

API
St. Paul, MN
(1-31-96) 13 years

National Automatic Sprinkler Company
Blaine, MN
(1-01/85) 24 years

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company, Inc.
Roseville, MN
(1-01-01) 8 years

Sentry Fire Protection
Waverly, MN
(1-01-85) 24 years

Thanks for your industry support!

NFSA 2009 Seminar & Exhibition

Apr 29th – May 2nd, 2009 at the Omni Champions Gate, Orlando, FL. Details to follow.

Vendors: For booth application, http://www.nfsa.org/EPP_NFSA_application_V5.pdf

Visit the resort here, <http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/OrlandoChampionsGate.aspx>



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.