



*Bruce Lecair*  
*Regional Manager*

25417 Hyacinth St  
Corona, CA 92883

Phone: (951) 277-3517  
Fax: (951) 277-3199  
Cell: (951) 805-8992

Email: [lecair@nfsa.org](mailto:lecair@nfsa.org)

*April 2009*

## **NFSA's Awards Committee has announced Wayne Gey as this year's Golden Sprinkler Award recipient.**

NFSA's Awards Committee has announced Wayne Gey as this year's Golden Sprinkler Award Recipient. Wayne started Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers, Inc. in 1978 with two employees, lifelong friend Chuck Price and his 14 year old son, Clark. 31 years later, Wayne Automatic Sprinklers has grown to become a thriving, successful enterprise, largely because of Wayne's philosophy of doing every job the right way and always taking pride in one's work. Wayne built the company from within by rewarding employees for hard work through shared profits and earnings. His integrity and passion for the industry has never faltered. Wayne is the immediate past chairman of NFSA's Board of Directors. He is a past-President of the Florida Fire Sprinkler Association, serving on the Board of Directors since 1978. His longtime support of both the NFSA and Florida Fire Sprinkler Association – a Chapter of NFSA is well documented. He will be presented with the award before hundreds of his peers during the opening ceremony at NFSA's Annual Seminar & Exhibition scheduled for April 30 – May 2 in Orlando.

Along with honoring Wayne with this well-deserved award, the 2009 NFSA Annual Seminar and Exhibition has been geared to include a comprehensive program full of information for attendees. Workshop and plenary session topics have been specially selected to provide fire sprinkler contractors with the tools they need to weather the current economic storm and improve their day-to-day business operations. Presentations such as "Surviving during Tough Economic Times", presented by NFSA's Director of Regional Operations, Buddy Dewar and "The Closer's Guide to Selling During Tough Times" by a Dale Carnegie representative will provide invaluable information for all.

On the entertainment side of the seminar, NFSA will be hosting the "Top Tech" Competition that was so popular when it was introduced at our 2007 exhibition in Las Vegas. NFSA has arranged for golf tournaments on the Greg Norman-designed National and International courses at the resort. And, not to forget, the Omni ChampionsGate is a stone's throw from all of Orlando's most popular attractions. As a reminder, rooms are still available at the Omni ChampionsGate. The deadline for reservations is April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Rooms are selling at a brisk pace, so reserve yours today. Call the Omni at 1.800.843.6664 or log on to the NFSA website at [www.nfsa.org](http://www.nfsa.org) and follow the link for "Omni Reservation." Airfares to Orlando are still very affordable, book now to get the best prices.



Sam Husoe and Page Dougherty,  
CSFA Fire and Life Safety co-chair

## **Sam Husoe honored by California FPO's, CSFA**

Former NFSA West Regional Manager Sam Husoe was honored by the California State Firefighters Association on March 19, 2009 at the California Fire Prevention Institute Workshop and Training Conference Annual Banquet where he received the William R. Goss Fire and Life Safety Award.

The award was developed to recognize and honor a CSFA member within the fire prevention community that has contributed extraordinary commitment and dedication to the discipline of fire prevention. The recipient of the first CSFA Fire

& Life Safety Award was William R. Goss (Bill) who is retired from the City of Los Angeles Fire Department and who was also a former Regional Manager for NFSA. .

Mr. Husoe who was the Master of Ceremony at the banquet was honored for his many years of dedicated service to the fire community and for his tireless commitment to the California Fire Prevention Officers Association, the FPO Workshop Committee, tenure as Workshop Chairman and for his many years of organizing the conference vendor fairs and other events.

## **Common Voices Receives Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Safety Leadership Award**

The Congressional Fire Services Institute and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation have selected the Common Voices Coalition to receive the Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award. The award recognizes organizations for outstanding contributions to firefighter health and safety.

## **Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act Introduced to 111<sup>th</sup> Congress**

On Wednesday, February 25, 2009, Representative Jim Langevin (D-RI), introduced the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act to the 111th Congress. The bill, which will become the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act of 2009, will be HR1194. The Bill was introduced with 55 co-sponsors already on board including primary cosponsor Representative Eric Cantor (R-VA). Today, March 3, 2009, the NFSA Common Voices advocacy ladies, accompanied by representatives of the national fire and building organizations, fire sprinkler labor representatives and uniformed fire personnel, will be visiting selected Congressional offices on Capitol Hill to drum up additional cosponsor support for the bill.

## **NFSA Welcomes New Members**

During the month of March, NFSA welcomed into the NFSA family two new members as part of the California Provisional Membership Program. We are pleased to welcome Chris Bradley from Metro Fire & Safety located at 2735 Via Orange Way, Suite 102 in Spring Valley, CA and Gregory D. Donnan from Greco Fire Protection, Inc. located at 1346 Oakheath Drive in Harbor City, CA. into NFSA.

NFSA is also pleased to announce the two new Friends of the Industry members! Ronald J. Stephens from Yorba Linda, California and Carlos E. Jara from Huntington Beach California have joined the Friends of the Industry Program.

## **NFSA 2009 Southwest Top Tech Team Announced!**

NFSA is proud to announce that the Southwest Top Tech Team for 2009 is Fred Benn of Advanced Automatic Sprinkler in San Ramon, California, Thomas B. Mikulski II from Statewide Fire Protection in Las Vegas Nevada and Rod Manning from Simplex Grinnell in Orange, California. The team will be representing the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah in the Top Tech 2009 competition at the NFSA Annual Seminar and Exhibit in Orlando, FL from April 30 to May 1, 2009.

## **NFSA S.F. Bay Area Chapter Greet James Parsegian**

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter met Oakland at Scott's Seafood at Jack London Square where they greeted James Parsegian, Program Coordinator, Office of the State Fire Marshal. At the March 26, 2009 meeting Mr. Parsegian discussed issues related to the statewide OSFM work groups, committees and task forces in the fire prevention field. Also in attendance at the meeting was NFSA Area Director Jack Thacker who participated in the discussions.

The next Chapter meeting is scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. at the same location for an afternoon presentation from Loren Neyer, OSHP. Ms. Neyer will be discussing the state agency's inspection and plan review procedures.

## **Southern California Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers Welcome Kevin Scott**

At the March 9, 2009 Southern California Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers meeting at the Monterey Hills Restaurant in Monterey Park. Kevin Scott from the International Code Council (ICC) discussed California amendments to the International Fire Code. The amended IFC makes up the content of the 2007 California Fire Code and is in use statewide. His discussion included amendments in high piled storage, sprinklers and fire alarm systems, smoke control and alternate methods

## **Unbeatable Airfares Available to NFSA Annual Seminar & Exhibition in Orlando, Florida**

Check out the outstanding airfares available to the 2009 NFSA Annual Seminar & Exhibition in Orlando, Florida by clicking on the "Sample Airfares Update" link at the NFSA website at [www.nfsa.org](http://www.nfsa.org). We've found some unbeatable deals departing from all parts of the country. Make all your reservations now so you'll be sure to get a seat on the plane and a room at the Omni ChampionsGate. Book NOW for your greatest savings!

## West Region Seminars Scheduled for 2009

The NFSA Training Division will be teaching six seminars during 2009 in California and Hawaii. Classes have been scheduled in El Cerrito, Ca. April 21-23, Anaheim Ca. May 26-28 and again September 22-24, Apple Valley, Ca. July 28-30, Kahului in Maui on August 12-14 and in Woodland, Ca. October 20-22. For more information on class information and to sign up, please contact West Regional Manager Bruce Lecair or the NFSA website at [www.nfsa.org](http://www.nfsa.org).

### Anaheim, California

NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day)	Date:	5/26/09
NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day continued)	Date:	5/27/09
(New) Plan Review Procedures and Policies	Date:	5/28/09
NFPA 13, 13R, 13D Update 2007	Date:	09/22/09
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Date:	09/23/09
½ day Underground Piping for Fire Protection Systems	Date:	09/24/09
½ day Basic Seismic Protection for Sprinkler Systems	Date:	09/24/09

### El Cerrito, California

NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day)	Date:	4/21/09
NFPA and Intro to Plan Review (2-day continued)	Date:	4/22/09
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Date:	4/23/09

### Apple Valley, California

½ day Commissioning, & Acceptance Testing of Sprinkler Systems	Date:	7/28/09
½ day CPVC Piping Installations Requirements & Procedures	Date:	7/28/09
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems	Date:	7/29/09
Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Date:	7/30/09

### Woodland, California

½ -Day Underground Piping for Fire Protection	Date:	10/20/09
½-Day Commissioning, Acceptance, Testing of Sprinkler Systems	Date:	10/20/09
Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Date:	10/21/09
Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Date:	10/22/09

### Maui, Hawaii

NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day)	Date:	08/12/09
NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day continued)	Date:	08/13/09
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems	Date:	08/14/09

## NFSA Consultant to Open Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology

During his 20-year career in the fire sprinkler industry, Cecil Bilbo recognized that most of the training for sprinkler system layout technicians occurs on the job. He has always dreamed of running a school specifically for this field. Recently, Bilbo saw an opportunity for this goal to become a reality and he founded the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology in Champaign, Ill.

In conjunction with Parkland College, in Illinois, the Academy will begin teaching students from around the country this August and will provide them with the practical experience needed to become fire sprinkler system engineering technicians. “The people that graduate from our program will be ready to go to work when they graduate. This is a career path that can offer jobs during the recession, it’s a good-paying career, and there is a demand for trained technicians in the industry,” said Bilbo, President and Director of Engineering Technology at the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology.

An experienced sprinkler technician with expertise in layout, detailing and calculating fire sprinkler systems, Bilbo has served for the past several years as NFSA’s Director of Technical Services, but has stepped down from this position in order to open the school and develop a curriculum for fire sprinkler technicians. He will, however, continue on as a consultant with the NFSA, teaching classes and serving as one of NFSA’s Experts of the Day, helping to answer members’ questions.

The Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology will offer two different programs: a two-semester certificate and a four-semester associate’s degree. “The best part is that folks can come from anywhere and live here while they attend for about \$1,000 per month. After 20 months of school, the graduate can make a salary of \$30,000 to \$45,000 per year,” Bilbo said. The two-semester certificate will be jointly administered by the Academy and the Fire Services Institute at the University of Illinois, where students will be able to complete the necessary coursework in just eight months. The four-semester associate’s degree in Applied Sciences – Sprinkler System Technology will be jointly awarded by the Academy and Parkland College. Students will complete this necessary coursework in 18 to 20 months. Classes will cover building codes, standards for installation of sprinkler systems, building construction, CAD systems used to lay out systems, and hydraulic analysis. The Academy has already filled 12 of its 40 student spots for the upcoming academic year. To be considered for acceptance, one must have an aptitude for math and spatial awareness.

For more information on the Academy of Fire Sprinkler Technology, visit [www.sprinkleracademy.com](http://www.sprinkleracademy.com), or e-mail [info@sprinkleracademy.com](mailto:info@sprinkleracademy.com)

## **NFSA Web Banner Available to Members**

The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is pleased to announce the availability of an NFSA web banner for our members to post at their websites. The banner proclaims "Proud Member of NFSA-The Voice of the Fire Sprinkler Industry" and is sent through an email with a link to the NFSA website. Members displaying the banner can make it known to all visitors to their website that their organization is a member in good standing of NFSA. Every time a visitor clicks on the NFSA web banner they will be directed to the NFSA homepage. We are hoping to not only increase membership through this initiative, but to keep the Association strong, vital and in the public eye. Every click on the web banner will raise NFSA's appearance in search engine results. Please contact Advertising and Promotions Coordinator, Joanne Genadio at <mailto:[genadio@nfsa.org](mailto:genadio@nfsa.org)> [genadio@nfsa.org](mailto:genadio@nfsa.org) or 845.878.4200 ext. 118 to receive your NFSA web banner. Show your NFSA pride to all!

## **Regulations, Legislation, Codes, etc.**

### **AB 660 (Torrico) Sprinkler fitters: Licensing**

**Status:** May be heard from committee on March 28, 2009

**Summary:** Existing law establishes the Office of the State Fire Marshal for specified purposes and requires the appointment by the Governor of the State Fire Marshal. Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to adopt and administer regulations and building standards he or she deems necessary in order to,

among other things, establish and control a program for servicing, testing, and maintaining all automatic fire extinguishing systems, including fire sprinkler systems. This bill would include the assessments of the State Fire Marshal among the state agencies for which a license may be affected for nonpayment. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**AB 1127 (Solorio) School Facilities: Automatic Fire Sprinkler System**

**Status:** Read first time on March 2, 2009

**Summary:** Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts, prescribed per-unhoused-pupil state funding for construction and modernization of school facilities, including hardship funding, and supplemental funding for site development and acquisition. Existing law requires all modernization projects that have an estimated total cost in excess of \$200,000 submitted to the Division of the State Architect, including hardship applications that require the approval of the Department of General Services to include an automatic fire detection and alarm system approved by the State Fire Marshal. The automatic fire detection and alarm system is required to consist of smoke or heat detectors, or a combination of smoke and heat detectors, installed in the school building. This bill would require, on and after July 1, 2010, that modernization projects that have an estimated cost of more than \$500,000 have an automatic fire sprinkler system installed throughout the school building in accordance with building standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal.

**SB 183 (Lowenthal) Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

**Status:** May be acted upon after March 20, 2009

**Summary:** Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to adopt regulations and standards regarding the quality and installation of burglar bars and safety release mechanisms for emergency escape and rescue windows, the approval and installation of smoke detectors, and the approval of portable fire extinguishers for marketing, distribution, and sale in this state. Existing law requires a smoke detector approved and listed by the State Fire Marshal to be installed in a dwelling unit intended for human occupancy. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to ensure that a carbon monoxide alarm is installed in each dwelling intended for human occupancy with a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage. The bill would also make a statement of legislative findings

**SB 275 (Walters) Professional Engineers**

**Status:** May be acted upon after March 27, 2009

**Summary:** Existing law establishes the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors in the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law recognizes various engineering disciplines. Existing law prohibits the practicing of civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering by any person who has not passed a specified examination and who is not appropriately licensed by the board in that discipline. Existing law makes various violations of the Professional Engineers Act a crime, including the practice or offer to practice by a person of civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering without authorization as provided by the act. This bill would prohibit the practice of agricultural, chemical, control system, fire protection, industrial, metallurgical, nuclear, petroleum, and traffic engineering by any person who has not passed a specified examination and who is not appropriately licensed by the board in the particular discipline. The bill would make other changes to related provisions. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws

**SB 404 (Cogdill) Contractors: Fire Sprinkler Installation**

**Status:** May be acted upon after March 28, 2009

**Summary:** The Contractors' State License Law provides for the licensing and regulation of contractors by the Contractors' State License Board, and authorizes the board to institute disciplinary actions for a violation thereof. Existing law provides for special classifications within the contracting business, including the C-16 fire protection classification. Existing law prohibits a general contractor from

contracting for any project that includes a C-16 fire protection classification unless he or she holds that license classification or subcontracts with an appropriately licensed contractor. This bill would, on and after January 1, 2011, require every contractor licensed by the state as a Class C-16 fire protection contractor to employ at least one fire sprinkler supervisor for the purpose of supervising fire sprinkler installation on any project undertaken by the contractor that requires that installation. The bill would set forth the qualifications for employment as a fire sprinkler supervisor. The bill would also, on and after January 1, 2011, require those contractors to implement a fire sprinkler installation training program for his or her employees who are involved with the installation of fire sprinkler systems, with specified exemptions. The bill would require a contractor, upon request by state or local fire authorities, to show proof of employee training, and would provide that a violation of these provisions by a contractor is grounds for disciplinary action.

## **UPCOMING WESTERN REGION MEETINGS:**

### **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Cal Fire Meetings**

- **Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee** Regional Manager Bruce Lecair is appointed to this committee and will be in attendance in El Segundo, Ca. The next meeting for the AES Committee will be held on April 9, 2009 in Sacramento at the OSFM.
- April 6, 2009, **Residential Fire Sprinkler Water Task Force Phase II** Steve Hart and Regional Manager Bruce Lecair are appointed to this committee and will be in attendance in Rancho Cucamonga, Ca. The Phase I Task Force concluded their meetings on March 30, 2009 and have presented their recommendations to the OSFM.

**NFSA L.A. California Chapter, Thursday, April 16, 2009 at Los Serranos Golf Club at 5 p.m.**

**NFSA S.F. California Chapter, Thursday, May 28, 2009 at Jack London Square at 3:00.**

- The March Chapter meeting will be the location for a presentation from Loren Neyer, OSHPD. Ms. Neyer will give a presentation on current programs and processes at OSHPD.

**Southern California FPO Mtg.** Wednesday, April 8, 2009 in Anaheim, Ca. at 10:00 a.m.

- The meeting will be held at the Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center Street, Anaheim, Ca. and will feature a presentation entitled, "Fireworks – Fiend or Foe" To register, see the website at [www.firepreventionofficers.org](http://www.firepreventionofficers.org)

**Northern California FPO Mtg.** Friday, April 24, 2009 in San Francisco, Ca.

- To RSVP or for additional information the Joint Northern California Fire Protection Engineers Joint Meeting and Supply and Manufacture's Vendor's Exhibition, see the website at [www.firepreventionofficers.org](http://www.firepreventionofficers.org)

### **Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Southern California**

- **Regular Meeting:** Tuesday April 21 - 11:30 AM Location: Los Serranos Golf Club, Chino Hills, Ca. Members are invited for a round of Golf before the meeting.
- **Special Meeting:** Tuesday May 19 - 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Location: Mr. Stox Restaurant, 1105 Katella Ave. Anaheim, Ca. Program: L A City Dept of B&S Orange County F.A.
- No meeting is scheduled in June due to the NFPA Convention in Chicago, IL 6/8 thru 6/12.
- **Special Meeting** Wednesday July 22 -11:30 AM Location: Los Serranos Golf Club, Guest Speaker: Jim Lake, Staff Liaison NFPA 13 & NFPA 25 (Golf –AM)

**San Diego Fire Protection Association, April 14, 2008, La Mesa, Ca. at Marie Callendar's Restaurant 11:30 a. m.**

- The monthly meeting agenda is pending.

### **Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association-County of Hawaii November, 2009**

- The Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association will conduct its next meeting on the island of Hawaii in November to discuss issues and attend training seminars. Regional Manager Bruce Lecair will be in attendance. (Dates and additional information to be announced.)