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July 2009

NFSA Cancels 2010 Hawaii Annual Seminar, Cites Responsibility to Industry

On Tuesday, June 16, 2009, the Board of Directors of the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) made the very difficult – but in light of the current economic climate, the prudent decision was to cancel next year’s Annual Seminar scheduled for May 12 – 15 at the Fairmont Orchid on Hawaii’s Big Island. After reviewing results of a survey conducted by NFSA designed to gauge the membership’s interest in attending next year’s conference in Hawaii, it became obvious that the most responsible course of action was to cancel the event.

“The Association takes its contractual obligations very seriously,” said NFSA President John Viniello commenting on the Board’s action. “That’s what made the decision to cancel next year’s seminar in Hawaii such a difficult one. After taking every possible detail into consideration, the Board felt that it would be in the best interest of the membership to cancel the event.” While this is an extraordinary measure driven by the severity of the times, NFSA’s move to cancel the Annual Seminar is not without precedent. During a similar period of economic crisis in the early 1990’s, NFSA cancelled its Annual Seminar in Cancun, Mexico, opting for a more downsized, strictly business oriented event held in New Orleans in conjunction with the National Fire Protection Association’s annual meeting.

As a result of canceling the conference in Hawaii, NFSA’s convention manager has been directed to investigate possible alternative cities and hotels in the Midwest including the Chicago Fairmont, site of NFSA’s very well-attended 1999 Annual Seminar & Exhibition.

NFSA Welcomes 4 New Members!

During the month of June, NFSA welcomed 4-new members to the West Region. From the Island of Oahu in Hawaii, NFSA welcomed Mr. Thomas R. McClintock from Professional Fire Systems, Inc. located at 948 Kailiu Place in Honolulu. The West Region also welcomed Subscriber Members Patricia B. Daul of the Poway Fire Department located at 1831 Alta Vista Avenue in Escondido, CA 92027 and Arthur J. McCown of the University of California at Irvine located at 5201 California Avenue, Ste 502 in Irvine, CA 92697. Rejoining NFSA as a subscriber member is longtime former Contractor Member Mr. Dan Peterson from the City of Paso Robles located at 2043 Summit Drive in Paso Robles, CA 93446.

NFPA Announces Fire Prevention Week Theme for 2009! **”Stay Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned”**



Testing the water before putting a child in the bath may sound like common sense. Wearing short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking on the stovetop may show foresight. This and other simple actions may be all it takes to prevent devastating burns from occurring . Fire Prevention Week in 2009 will focus on burn awareness and prevention, as well as keeping homes safe from the leading causes of home fires. From October 4-10, fire and life safety educators across the country will bring these important safety messages to their communities, showing them simple ways they can “Stay Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned.” its theme: [Stay Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned](#). U.S. fire departments responded to 399,000 home fires in 2007. These home fires killed almost 2,900 - roughly eight people every day.

This year’s fire prevention campaign, [Stay Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned](#) focuses on ways to prevent fires, and the deaths, injuries, and property loss they cause. Eighty-four percent of all fire deaths were attributed to a home fire. By providing valuable information on fire and burn prevention and safety tips, the campaign aims to help the public keep their homes and its occupants safe from fire and burns.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education.

Fire Sprinklers Contain 2 West Region Fires!

Mark T. Baker, Fire Chief of the Lakeside Fire Protection District announced on June 15th that an early morning fire that occurred shortly before 2 a.m. was extinguished by a single fire sprinkler. Lakeside firefighters were called to a reported residential structure fire in the 10500 block of Valle Vista Road. Three engine companies, a paramedic ambulance and a battalion chief responded to the incident. On arrival, it was determined that there had been a fire in one of five bedrooms in the 3778 square foot single family dwelling. The occupants stated they were awakened by an odor of smoke, quickly followed by the activation of a smoke detector and a residential fire sprinkler. The activation of the fire sprinkler contained the fire, which originated in a computer printer, to the bedroom of origin. The fire was isolated to the area of the printer but the area around the device sustained moderate heat, smoke and water damage, with an estimated loss of \$8000 to the structure and its contents.

The Lakeside Fire Protection District has required automatic fire sprinkler protection in large single family dwellings for approximately ten years. Recently, the District adopted an ordinance requiring the installation of fire sprinklers in all new buildings and structures and retrofitting of sprinklers in buildings

under certain conditions. Had this large single family dwelling not been equipped with automatic fire sprinklers, the outcome may have been tragic for the sleeping occupants.

Adding another save to the sacred hall of "**No More Flames**," Jim Dias, Division Chief of the Aptos/LaSelva Fire Protection District announced that a quiet Saturday was interrupted when firefighters were dispatched to a report of an alarm sounding, with a smell of something burning in the neighbor's home. Upon arrival at a triplex, the first due engine found a small fire that had been extinguished by a single Viking residential fire sprinkler head. Firefighters quickly shut the fire sprinkler system down, cleaned up the scene and notified a fire sprinkler contractor who replaced the sprinkler head and reactivated the sprinkler system. The cause of the fire was determined to be clothes placed on or adjacent to a nearby wall heater.

National Fire Experts Make Case for Greater Fire Protection!

Live fire demonstration shows the need for home fire sprinklers

(CHICAGO, ILL.), June 10, 2009 – The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) held a live demonstration of the need for home fire sprinklers as part of the 2009 NFPA Annual Conference & Expo at McCormick Place today. The side-by-side room burn highlighted the speed and effectiveness of sprinklers in controlling a residential fire and reinforced NFPA's new campaign promoting sprinkler advocacy, Fire Sprinkler Initiative: Bringing Safety Home, which was launched earlier this year. "Home fire sprinklers save lives and this demonstration shows how important they are to keep people safe at home," said Jim Shannon, president of NFPA. "NFPA is a vocal advocate for home fire sprinklers because too many of the residential fire deaths across this country could have been prevented by this proven technology."

Approximately 80 percent of all fire deaths occur in homes and nearly 3,000 people died in house fires in 2007 – that's nearly eight Americans every day. The chances of dying in a fire decrease by about 80 percent when home fire sprinklers are present. When a house is protected by home fire sprinklers, the fire is contained by the activation of just one sprinkler roughly 90 percent of the time. In homes where sprinklers are not present, the fire can burn for minutes, raging out of control, filling the home with toxic smoke and resulting in far greater losses. A recent report (PDF, 353 KB) from NFPA shows that sprinklers can reduce the average property loss by 71 percent per fire.

The live fire demonstration in Chicago, hosted by the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition, ROC Exhibitions and the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board, included a side-by-side display with identically furnished rooms. One side of the display had home fire sprinklers installed; the other side of the display did not. One at a time, both rooms were set on fire. As the room without sprinkler protection was set on fire, thick black smoke quickly filled the enclosure. The fire burned out of control, to the point of flashover, until the Chicago Fire Department stepped in to extinguish the fire. The room with home fire sprinklers was then set on fire. As the heat built up in the display, the sprinklers activated. In stark contrast to the first room, the fire in the sprinklered room was quickly controlled by the overhead sprinklers. Home fire sprinklers are designed to activate when a certain temperature increase is reached and can effectively control smoke, heat and flames. The fire and smoke damage in the sprinklered room was significantly less than in the room without sprinklers. Currently, all model building codes call for sprinklers in new construction of one- and two-family homes. There are approximately 50 communities in the Chicago area that have such a requirement.

September Training Classes Moved to Brea!

The NFSA Training Division announces that the September seminar previously scheduled to be conducted in Anaheim, California will be moved to the nearby “Award Winning City of Brea!” The City of Brea is known for its innovative community planning and will be the site of a great series of classes taught by the NFSA Training Division. The next series of classes are scheduled in Apple Valley, California on July 28 through July 30. The classes noted below will feature Commissioning, Acceptance and Testing of Sprinkler Systems, CPVC Piping Installations Requirements and Procedures, Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems and Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage. For more class information and to sign up, please contact West Regional Manager Bruce Lecair or sign up on the NFSA website at www.nfsa.org.

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

Brea, California

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

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

Southern California FPO’s Meet in Temecula!

The Southern California Fire Prevention Officers Association met at the Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, CA. on June 10, 2009 where the FPO’s received an NFSA update on membership, classes and statewide issues. The afternoon presentation featured a one-hour class on management of special events by the Fire Prevention Bureaus from members of the Newport and Long Beach Fire Departments. The primary focus was on haunted houses, on campus and school sponsored events and how to address code issues politically and through model code.

For additional information regarding this and future meetings go to the website at <http://www.firepreventionofficers.org>. and click the information bar for North and South meetings.

San Diego Fire Protection Association Meets to Discuss CPVC Piping Systems!



The San Diego Fire Protection Association met on June 9, 2009 in La Mesa, CA. and welcomed Jeff Landon (pictured left) from FBC Building Solutions. Mr. Landon addressed issues and concerns of those present on CPVC Piping Systems.

The monthly meeting is a luncheon forum for San Diego area Sprinkler Contractors, Fire Alarm and Related System Designers, Contractors, Engineers & Equipment Suppliers, Authorities Having Jurisdiction-Fire Marshals, Plan Reviewers, Building Officials, and Fire Inspectors.

San Diego Fire Protection Association Participates in Burn Institute Expo!

On Saturday, June 20, 2009 San Diego Fire Protection Association participated for the first time at the Burn Institute EXPO held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds in Del Mar California. The SDFPA hosted a fair booth and distributed Home Fire Sprinkler and NFSA fire sprinkler brochures, fliers, videos and other related materials and information to those in attendance. The one day event benefited the local Burn Institute and was the site of the exciting Firefighter Combat Challenge Competition. Also in attendance were the Emerald City Drum and Bugle Corps (pictured right), the CSFA Steamer and a special appearance to help out at the booth by former California State Fire Marshal Ronnie Coleman.



Regulations, Legislation, Codes, etc.

AB 660 (Torrico) Sprinkler fitters: Licensing

Last Historical Action: From Committee chair, with author's amendments, amend and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Committee on Governmental Organization
Committee location: Senate Governmental Organization

Committee Action Date: 06/23/2009

Committee Action: Do pass as amended, and re-referred to the Committee on Public Safety

See June 2009 for Summary

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

Status: Referred to Committee ASM Appropriations, Hearing Date 05/28/2009

Last Historical Action: Set second hearing, held under submission:

ASM Appropriations. **See June 2009 for Summary**

SB 183 (Lowenthal) Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Status: Last Historical Action Date: 06/22/2009,

Last Historical Action: Read second time, amended. Re-referred to Committee on Judicial Hearing date: 06/30/2009 **See June 2009 for Summary**

SB 405 (Cogdill) Contractors: Fire Sprinkler Installation

Status: 05/21/2009 Last historical action: In Assembly. Read first time, held at Desk.

Committee Location: Senate Labor and Industrial Relations,

Last Action Date: 04/27/2009

Last Historical Action: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of the author.

Committee Location: Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development

See June 2009 for Summary

UPCOMING WESTERN REGION MEETINGS:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Cal Fire Meetings

- **Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee, July 16, 2009** at the OSFM in Sacramento, Ca. Regional Manager Bruce Lecair is appointed to this committee and will be in attendance.

NFSA L.A. California Chapter, Thursday, August 20 and October 15 at 5 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center at 10627 Old River School Road in Downey, CA 90241.

NFSA S.F. California Chapter, Thursday, July 23, 2009 at Jack London Square at 5:00.

- **Brian Cullen** from NFSA Best Practices will be in attendance to give a presentation on how members can benefit from sharing best practices.
- Hold your calendars for the September 17, 2009 meeting that will feature a presentation from NFPA Western Regional Manager Ray Bizal.

Southern California FPO Mtg. Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting is to be hosted by the Brea Fire Department.

- To RSVP, see the website at www.firepreventionofficers.org

Northern California FPO Mtg. Friday, July 24, 2009 at 9:30 at the Mount Hamilton-Lick Observatory.

- To RSVP, see the website at www.firepreventionofficers.org

Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Southern California

- **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)
 - **RSVP is Mandatory!!!!**

San Diego Fire Protection Association, July 14, 2009, La Mesa, Ca. at Marie Callendar's Restaurant 11:30 a. m.

- The monthly meeting agenda is pending.

Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association Conference-Waikoloa, Hawaii, November 19-22, 2009

- The Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association will conduct its next meeting on the island of Hawaii at the Hilton Waikoloa Village in Waikoloa on November 19-22. The annual Conference features education and training seminars, presentations from the fire industry, a vendor's day and meetings and events. Regional Manager Bruce Lecair will be in attendance.

20th Annual California Fire Prevention Institute - March 15-19, 2010

- Planning is already starting for another GREAT workshop! The Santa Ynez Valley Marriott is once again the site of the 20th Annual CFPI Workshop.