



FIRE BUCKET



February 2017

A publication of the Central Ohio Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers

SFPECOC.Webs.com

Next Meeting

Date: March 8, 2017

Location: **The Spaghetti Warehouse**
397 West Broad St, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Speaker: Debbie Ohler, – Staff Engineer
State of Ohio – Ohio Board of Building Standards

Topic: Ohio Building Code Revisions
The presentation will discuss the duties of the Ohio Board of Building Standards, the relationship between the Ohio Building Code and the Ohio Fire Code, an overview of the proposed Ohio Building Code and Ohio Mechanical Code Changes of interest to the fire protection engineer, and the Ohio Code development process.

This course is also approved for anyone holding a Board of Building Standards Building Official, Master Plans Examiner, Building Inspector, Fire Protection Inspector and Mechanical Inspector Certification and continuing education credits will be provided.

Time: Registration 11:15 – 11:30 am
Lunch at 11:30 am
Program 12:15 pm

Cost: \$20.00 (Members)
\$25.00 (Non-members)

Reservations Deadline: March 3, 2017 – 4 P.M.

Reminder: Those who use the “One-Pay” option still need to make a reservation.

Contact: Chad Miller
Chad.miller@comunale.com
614-338-9812

Reservations must be cancelled within 48 hours, or will be billed.

Future Meetings

May 10, 2017 – Chapter Meeting
June 30, 2017- Phil Gentile Golf Outing
September 18, 2017 – Burn Center Outing

6th Annual Phil Gentile Memorial Golf Outing

Our 6th annual Phil Gentile Golf Outing will be held June 30, 2017 at the Willow Run Golf Course in Pataskala, Ohio.

For this outing, every plays their own ball. (No teams.) We have lots of prizes and a great meal after golf.

Details are included at the end of the Fire Bucket. We hope you can join us for a great day of fun.



SFPE Store
[SFPE](#)

Are you looking for a SFPE T-shirt, sweatshirt, water bottles bags etc.? SFPE now has a completed on-line store. You can also get calendars, stickers, and even a t-shirt for your dog.



[Click here to see the entire collection.](#)

It's SFPE Award Time: Nominate a Fellow, Highlight Your Chapter's Success, or Recognize Your Peers

[Source: SFPE](#)

2017 Fellow Nominations

Fellow (FSFPE) is the highest grade of membership in SFPE. To be eligible, individuals must have been a professional SFPE member for at least 10 years. Election as a Fellow shall be in recognition of service to the Society as well as for significant accomplishments and stature in fire protection engineering and fire safety engineering.

For a complete list of eligible nominees and the newly revised 2017 Fellow instructions, initiator, and sponsor forms, go here (sign in is required).

Award for Chapter Excellence

The SFPE Board of Directors established ACE Awards in 2005 to recognize SFPE Chapters that demonstrate excellence in contributing to the need of their members and the Society. Three levels of recognition are awarded: Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

Per the Standing Rules, each chapter must submit the Chapter Evaluation Form and chapter member contact information annually. To download the Chapter Evaluation Form and

submission checklist, go here (sign in is required).

2017 Award Nominations

Do you know a fire protection engineer, fire safety engineer, or student who is doing exceptional work and deserves to be recognized? Now is your chance to nominate them for the 2017 SFPE Awards. To view the award categories and the nomination form go here.

Submission Deadline is Friday, April 28th for Fellow, ACE Award, and all Society Award Nominations. If you have any questions or issues with submission, please contact Julie Gordon at jgordon@sfpe.org or directly at 301-915-9721.

Do sprinkler systems make a difference when fighting fires?

[Source: NBC 10](#)

EAST GREENWICH, R.I. (WJAR) — A couple of dangerous fires were purposefully set in East Greenwich Tuesday.

Fortunately, it was just part of a demonstration.

Firefighters were comparing the damage done by fire in homes with smoke detectors versus homes with sprinkler systems.

The Rhode Island Fire Sprinkler Coalition demonstrated what they described as the "simple technology" that can save lives.

The two model homes set up side-by-side: the first one, only with a smoke detector; the second one, with a smoke detector and a fire sprinkler.

The one with only a smoke detector becomes engulfed in flames once ignited with a waste bin fire. It takes minutes for firefighters to arrive.



Even when the fire is put out by trained professionals, the damage is clear.

The model home with a sprinkler above the fire senses significant heat change once the flame is ignited, and releases water before the fire becomes out of control.

“We could see that today between the two demonstrations, one is totally consumed, and the other one, other than slight water damage, you can probably be back in the house in a couple days,” Hopkins Hill Fire District Chief Frank Brown said.

The Coalition has tried to get legislators to mandate sprinklers, but the group says it’s a tough sell. That’s why they’re taking their message right to the homeowner.

“It is an option,” New England Senior Fire Investigator Robert Duval said of the fire sprinklers. “It’s not an expensive option, and it’s not a complicated option.”

The cost of building a new house with sprinklers is about \$1.35 per square foot. That’s \$2,700 for a 2,000 square foot home.

Fire sprinkler systems do not operate in response to smoke, or the sound of a smoke alarm. They only operate when there’s significant heat change, and then the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

About codes and standards

Source: NFPA

What is a code? What is a standard?

The earliest building code is thought to have been developed sometime between 1955 B.C. and 1913 B.C., during the reign of King Hammurabi of Babylon. The code didn’t specify how to build a building - but laid out the consequences of not building well. If a house fell and killed the owner or his child, then the builder, or his child, would be slain in retaliation.

Today’s codes are more elaborate, and less punitive. But like Hammurabi’s code, they express society’s will on a particular technical issue, specifying a desired outcome.

- A **code** is a model, a set of rules that knowledgeable people recommend for others to follow. It is not a law, but can be adopted into law.
- A **standard** tends to be a more detailed elaboration, the nuts and bolts of meeting a code.

One way of looking at the differences between codes and standards is that a code tells you what you need to do, and a standard tells you how to do it. A code may say that a building must have a fire-alarm system. The standard will spell out what kind of system and how it must work. The NFPA has few codes; most of its documents are standards. See the full list of NFPA codes and standards.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

The NFPA traces its very origin to the need for a standard. In the late 19th century, automatic sprinkler systems came into use as an effective way to put out fires. There were nine different pipe sizes. In 1895, a group of people involved with sprinkler manufacture and fire insurance got together to develop a uniform standard for the installation of sprinklers. The following year,

as an outgrowth of that group, the NFPA was founded, and developing codes and standards remains one of the association's most important functions. NFPA has developed more than 300 codes and standards that are in use throughout the world.

Making codes and standards

The NFPA has developed a system for writing codes and standards that relies on the volunteer efforts of diverse groups of people and that is unique in its commitment to openness.

- A 13-person Standards Council, appointed by the NFPA Board of Directors, oversees the process.
- More than 225 Technical Committees report to the Council. Some 7,000 volunteers serve on these committees.
- Each technical committee has up to 30 voting members with a balanced representation of affected people, such as consumers, enforcing authorities, manufacturers and researchers.
- The technical committees recognize that the world can't be made perfectly safe. They work toward a consensus that balances risks and costs, an agreement on how much society is willing to spend to reduce the risk of harm.
- A minimum of two-thirds of the technical committee has to approve any change. (Some situations required a three-quarter majority.)
- All codes and standards are revised every three to five years in a process that takes two years.

A Short History of White House Fires

[Source: Time Magazine](#)

Putting aside the bizarre incidents — like the time an FBI informant set himself on fire in front of the White House in 2004 or the time a small plane crashed into the White House in 1994 — regular, workaday fires like the one that happened this morning in Vice President Dick Cheney's ceremonial suite at the Old Executive Office are not actually all that common on the White House grounds. Given the 27 wood-burning fireplaces, high volume of bureaucratic traffic and constant maintenance and refurbishing, it is not too bad a record.



In modern times, fires break out roughly two times every decade at the White House. The last real bonfire was way back in 1929 on Christmas Eve, when the West Wing was gutted by a massive conflagration. President Herbert Hoover had to leave his Christmas party to oversee the removal of important papers from the Oval Office. (But the Marine Band played on, and the First lady kept the party going.) The doozy, of course, was in 1814, when the invading Brits set the White House on fire. (Dolley Madison had to smuggle out the famous Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington before the British troops got to the mansion.) Only the outside walls remained standing — and that was probably because of a timely thunderstorm that helped contain the fire. Scorch marks from that blaze are still apparent in some walls in the White House.

More recently, a small fire broke out on the exterior of the East Wing in 2000. That one started the way most White House fires start —

as workers were painting or removing paint or otherwise refurbishing some corner of the place. In 1995, a tour bus burst into flames on Pennsylvania Avenue, across from the White House. The heat peeled the paint at Blair House, the presidential guesthouse. In the 1980s, there was a string of fire and smoke incidents under President Ronald Reagan, including one in the mess. But none did much damage.

Why haven't there been more fires at the White House? A serious fire detection system was installed in 1965. And it's very sensitive. When a sensor detects smoke, a warning goes off in the Secret Service's control center in the White House. The D.C. Fire Department is quickly called, and at least five engines and two ladder trucks respond from any one of several surrounding stations. (A unit is on hand anytime a helicopter takes off or lands at the White House.)

The response is slowed — slightly — by the Secret Service, which checks the ID of all the firefighters and then escorts them to the smoke. But the two organizations have fairly good relations these days, and the delay is usually only a minute or two. The best fire prevention system, though, is probably the security — and the workaholics. "If you had somebody walking through your house every floor, every day, you wouldn't have any problems either," says Walter Gold, executive director of the DC Fire Department Museum who responded in his volunteer capacity to the fire at the White House today. "It wasn't much of a fire," he says.

The Christmas Eve West Wing Fire of 1929

[Source: White House History](#)

On Christmas Eve 1929 the White House experienced its most powerful fire since the British torched the Executive Mansion 115 years earlier.

At about 8:00 p.m., White House messenger Charlie Williamson smelled smoke coming from the West Wing executive offices and called White House police officer Richard Trice and Secret Service agent Russell Wood. Trice and Wood ran up a winding stairway above the executive offices where the smell of smoke and heat was intense — and found that an estimated 200,000 government pamphlets on almost every imaginable topic, stored in an attic at the top of the stairway since the days of President Theodore Roosevelt, was going up like brushwood.

"The whole loft is burning up!" Wood cried. He and Trice grabbed fire extinguishers and went to work, but to no avail. They decided to change tactics. One turned on the alarm to the office of Chief Usher Ike Hoover (no relation to the president) while the other called the Washington, D.C., fire department.



A Christmas party for children of the president's aides and friends was going full swing, a detail from the U.S. Marine Band playing Christmas carols in the corridor, when Ike Hoover appeared and whispered urgently in President Hoover's ear: "The executive office is on fire. I want you to get your secretaries away from the table."

"I'll go too," said Hoover as he rose from the table and asked the men to follow him into the

hallway; the president's son Allan Hoover joined them. First Lady Lou Hoover was told about the fire and calmly remained to supervise the party. The children were never aware of any trouble. The next year some of them received a toy fire engine from the president.

When President Hoover's group reached the executive office they crawled through a window to the left of the president's desk and began removing steel cabinets packed with files. Allan Hoover and the president's personal secretaries Lawrence Richey and George Akerson took the president's desk drawers and hurried them away. Secret Service agents carried out Hoover's chair and the presidential flag.

The fire was a four-alarm that brought 19 engine companies and four truck companies—130 firefighters—to the White House. They began attacking the blaze by breaking a domed skylight and hacking holes in the roof to let smoke out and water from their fire hoses in.

Akerson was worried about water damage to the president's desk. Ike Hoover thought quickly of the heavy tarpaulin that covered the sidewalk and east entrance of the White House when people lined up for the New Year's Day reception—he used it to safely cover the desk.

In his small switchboard room in the basement, M.M. Rice of the White House telephone and telegraph unit refused to leave his post and stayed on throughout the fire, working the switchboard, oblivious to the clamor of yelling and shouted orders, even though his eyes were stung by smoke and a foot of water filled the room. When his boss Edward W. Smithers arrived, he ordered Rice to leave immediately.

Responding firefighters braved danger battling the flames. Private Walter G. Clark of No. 1 rescue squad was on the hose line when his face and part of his clothing were scorched by a back draft of flames and smoke. Several firefighters, along with police and fire surgeon Dr. John A. Reed, carried Clark outside where he was taken to a hospital. Likewise, Private William T. Capps of No. 9 Engine Company was on the roof when the smoke became extremely intense. Climbing down, he collapsed

on the ground and was taken to the hospital where he recovered overnight.



Pumpers worked furiously from hydrants up to five blocks away from the White House to supply the water necessary to combat the flames. Work became compounded by freezing temperatures as sheets of ice formed around the fire-fighting efforts. President Hoover, clad in a heavy blue overcoat and a black hat, stood watching on top of the West Terrace, puffing a cigar, rubbing his hands for warmth and occasionally dodging water spouts from the swinging hoses of the firefighters. After the child guests had left about 10:00, Mrs. Hoover and her sister Jean joined him.

By about 10:30 the fire had been put out. The executive offices were heavily damaged and the White House press room was ruined. Reporters lost personal effects and files—along with a new poinsettia plant, a holiday gift from the Hoovers. The next morning President Hoover, his physician and several cabinet members sloshed through still-standing water and looked at the damage. Lt. Col. Ulysses S. Grant III of the Public Buildings and Parks Department and Chief George Watson of the Fire Department told Hoover that either a blocked or faulty chimney vent or defective electric wiring had overheated and caused the pamphlets in the attic to ignite. Although the smoke-smudged walls were in good shape, the roof, attic and floors were severely damaged.



The White House was not insured; its officials had to ask Congress for a special appropriation to repair the damage. The Charles H. Tompkins Co. of Washington was awarded the contract on January 4, 1930. After repair work was completed, Hoover and his aides moved back into the West Wing on April 14. The next day he held a press conference and told the reporters: "This is a small assembly this morning, and I have small news—in fact, none at all. I will just welcome you back to the new White House. . . . You will be more comfortable and so will I."

[Click here for addition information](#)

Fire at PA Procter and Gamble Warehouse Contained

[Source: FireHouse](#)

Jan. 17--MESHOPPEN TWP. -- Multiple fire companies responded to a blaze early Tuesday morning at a distribution warehouse that handles products from Procter and Gamble's Mehoopany plant.

No one was injured in the fire at the Tunkhannock Distribution Center.

The facilities that manufacture Charmin, Pampers and Bounty products located about five miles south were not impacted.

Dozens of crews from Wyoming, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Bradford counties responded around 1:45 a.m. The blaze was contained to one of six sections of the center and extinguished by 5 a.m.

P&G-Mehoopany spokesman Alex Fried reported minimal property damage. Officials continue to investigate the cause of the blaze.

Meshoppen Fire Chief Scott Hayward acknowledged the 100-plus firefighters who helped bring the fire under control.



"A huge thank you goes to everyone who assisted on this incident," Chief Hayward said.

Editor's Note: After looking at multiple stories on line, none mentioned the operation of fire sprinklers.

Web Links

SFPE Central Ohio Chapter
www.sfpecoc.webs.com

Society of Fire Protection Engineers
(National) www.sfpe.org

American Fire Sprinkler Association
www.firesprinkler.org

ICC Website
www.iccsafe.org

National Fire Sprinkler Association
www.nfsa.org

N.I.C.E.T.
www.nicet.org

Ohio State Fire Marshal
www.com.state.oh.us/sfm

OSU Fire Safety Website
www.firesafety.osu.edu

Underwriters Laboratories
www.UL.com

Mike Lyons – Board Member, Double Eight Fire Protection, Phone: 614-207-7590
E-mail: Mike Lyons mlyons@d8fire.com

Carl Sellke – Board Member, Industrial Sales Co. Phone: 614-882-1916
E-Mail: csellke@industrialsalesco.com

Bruce Larcomb - Director Emeritus
E-Mail: blarcomb@gmail.com

SFPE Central Ohio Chapter **Officers**

Ryan Oyster - President, Simplex-Grinnell
Phone: 614-602-2000
E-mail: royster@simplexgrinnell.com

Chad Miller – Vice President, S.A. Comunale,
Phone: 614-291-7001
E-mail: Chad.Miller@comunale.com

John Falk - Treasurer
Phone: 614-794-0461
E-Mail: jcf_sr@yahoo.com

Jen Haugh – Secretary, Capital Fire Protection
Phone: 614-279-9448
E-Mail: jen.haugh@sbcglobal.net

DIRECTORS

Dave Zink – Past President, Koorsen Fire & Security
Phone: 614-853-5675
E-Mail: david.zink@koorsen.com

Mark Bowman – Board Member - XL GAPS
Phone: 614-751-5049,
E-Mail: mark.bowman@xlgroup.com

Jim DiMarzo - Board Member, Industrial Sales Co. Phone: 614-882-1916,
E-Mail: jdimarzo@industrialsalesco.com

The FIRE BUCKET is published as a free forum for its members. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Central Ohio Chapter, or its Editor.



SFPE - Phil Gentile Memorial Golf Outing Friday, June 30, 2017

Willow Run Golf Course
Route 310 & Route 161
Alexandria, OH (740) 927-1932

Golf & ½ Cart & Dinner - \$ 60.00

Dinner Only - \$25.00

Hole Sponsor - \$50.00

Pre-payment is requested

Register: 8:30 am Tee off: 9:00 am Lunch: Included – At the turn Dinner: 2:30 pm

Dinner includes: N.Y. strip steak, potato, salad, rolls and butter, soft drinks and beer.

Lunch includes a hot dog or brat, chips and a drink. Sponsored by



Phil Gentile was one of our most active members of SFPE and Chairman of the SFPE Golf outing since 1990. Phil passed away in 2011. Although not an avid golfer, Phil really enjoyed the golf outings and would strive to make sure everyone had a good time. In 2011, we renamed the SFPE golf outing in his honor. Please join us for a day of fun and to honor Phil's legacy.

All corporate and individual donations of door prizes are greatly appreciated. Or sponsor a hole and will put your company name and logo on a sign on the tee.

Please make reservations by June 23, 2017

Send reservations to: Mark Bowman
13467 Chevington Dr
Pickerington, OH 43147
614-751-5049
E-mail: mark.bowman@xlgroup.com



Name: _____ **Phone No.:** _____

Company: _____

Members of foursome: _____

Golf & Dinner - \$60: _____

Dinner Only - \$25: _____

Refreshment Sponsor - \$100: _____

Hole Sponsor - \$50: _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

“Credit cards can now be accepted”

Register as a single and we will pair you up to make a foursome at the course.

Reservations must be cancelled within 48 hours, or they will be billed.