



Have a Safe, Enjoyable, Renewing Summer!

Meetings, past and future

In February our speaker was Todd Shearer of SimplexGrinnell. It was great to see Todd who provided a very dynamic and informative presentation on Mass Notification.

At our May meeting we were lucky to have Mr. Dave Harrington from the NJ Dept. of Labor cover the Prevailing Wage Laws. He did a wonderful presentation and no one went away without learning something that may save them a great deal in the future.

Coming up September 17th our speaker will be from the NJ Department of the Treasury, Division of Taxation to discuss New Jersey's Sales Tax Laws.

On November 19 our special guest speaker will be Mr. Bob Davidson, Principle of Davidson Code Concepts and chair of the State committee that adopted the International Fire Code. Bob will speak with us about New Jersey's adoption of the IFC.

Please remember that your dues cover one representative from your company's meal at each of our four yearly meetings. Additional attendees will be billed \$25; not a bad deal when you consider the meetings cost AFAANJ \$40 per person with a guarantee of 40 attending.

Please help support AFAANJ by attending meetings.

A word or two from the President; Edward Armm, SET Sr. Consultant RJA

I hope everyone's business is growing like my grass; this has been a wet spring.

AFAANJ has grown; we are close to having our 50th member company. We grew in another way as well; membership has been opened to "Working Fire Subcode Officials and Fire Marshalls" at no fee. This means that once we are current with our dues to National they will be able to log on to www.afa.org and register for classes at member rates; it also allows the purchase of NFPA documents at our discounted member's rate. Another member benefit of AFAANJ and AFAA is the ability to download pdf versions of Annual Code Conference Presentations again once you are logged in as a member. Currently we have 44 AHJ's as members.

I wish to welcome all new members, further to charge them with not just being members but supporters of the AFAANJ. Without your participation and support AFAANJ is serving no one, not life safety, and certainly not the people of the State of New Jersey that deserve the same level of safety from fire wherever they go in our State.

Please take a look at John Ventrella's article on page 2; it lists 17 topics that had success at State Associations over the past year. If you see anything that peaks your interest let one of your board members know so we can bring it home to AFAANJ

AFAANJ voted at our May 21st meeting to donate \$2,000 to sponsor a child from NJ to the Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp. There is information and a link on our web site www.afaanj.org.

The Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp became a reality in 1991 after many years and hours of dedication and planning by their late President and Founder, Arthur C. Luf. Located in Union, Connecticut on the Massachusetts line (Sturbridge, MA) in a former Boy Scout Camp (Camp Pomperaug), it is set on 176 acres with its own pond for swimming and boating.

It is located in a beautiful setting in the woods of Connecticut. The Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	AFAANJ Meeting updates
1	A Word From The President
2	AFAA Annual Meeting Notes by John Ventrella
3	AHJ's Corner by John Drucker
4	Election Results
5	A message from Tom Hammerberg, President/ Executive Director AFAA

AFAA Annual Code Conference Member Association Round Table

By John Ventrella

Chair – Member Services Committee

The day before the general meeting starts we have a Member Association Round Table. This allows State Association Officers to discuss what works and does not work. At our recent annual meeting a lot of good meeting topics and other ideas were discussed.

A. Successful meeting topics included:

1. Installing Duct Detectors (presenter - Jim Hall of Air Products)
2. Suppression Systems integration into FA Systems.
3. GPS System for your Service Fleet
4. Fire Stopping
5. Business Insurances
6. Service Contracts (from a legal perspective)
7. Sales Tax / Use Tax
8. Prevailing Wage
9. Mass Notification Systems
10. Elevator requirements (presenter – State Elevator Inspector)
11. NEC Article 760
12. Proper Detector Testing Methods
13. OSHA
14. Emergency Preparedness (for your business)
15. Permitting process (Presenter – local AHJ's)
16. IBC as related to FA Systems
17. IFC Modifications

B. Some of the idea's presented were:

1. Holding an AHJ Round Table (3 or 4 AHJ's from different jurisdictions). It was pointed out that it became apparent that the AHJ's may have been disseminating conflicting information and that having them participate in the same round table helped clear up some of those discrepancies.
2. Maryland has created a 3-ring binder for members which includes information such as;
 - a. Directory of AHJ's (address, email, phone number, etc.)
 - b. Permit requirements in different jurisdictions

3. Maryland also reported that their involvement with AHJ's has established their credibility as professional fire alarm advocates and allows them access to AHJ's. In a specific instance when they questioned a code requirement regarding fireman's phones that was being inconsistently enforced, a field directly was issued by the AHJ resolving the issue. This type of credibility is a significant member benefit.
4. Pennsylvania helped create a very comprehensive fire alarm inspection form for the City of Philadelphia that makes it very difficult for non qualified companies to do inspections. It requires very detailed inspection results to be reported such as specific detector sensitivity readings, etc. This form is not yet formally adopted but is expected to be. (See link on our web site)
5. Louisiana get's as much as \$300.00 from companies who sponsor an association meeting.

This is just a condensed summary of a four hour meeting. What it really pointed out is that Member Associations have a lot to offer each other. If your organization has a good idea, or a meeting topic that drew a crowd please share them.

John Ventrella
President Systems Sales Corporation



Both Member Associations got together to cosponsor the annual AFAA Breakfast at NFPA last week.

This year's topic was "The Future of Mass Notification Systems"

The distinguished presenters were:

Kenneth E. Lauziere, P.E., Office of the Architect of the Capitol

Wayne D. Moore, SET, FSFPE, Hughes Associates

Thomas Van Essen, New York Fire & Safety

AHJ'S CORNER;

Fire Alarm Systems, Generators as Secondary Power.

By John Drucker, Fire Protection Subcode Official, Electrical Inspector

The term "emergency generator" is often used interchangeably to describe a power source that replaces utility power. But not all generators and their wiring methods qualify as a secondary power source for a fire alarm system. With that said what questions should we be asking and verifying before accepting a generator as a fire alarm systems secondary power source.

There are a number of codes and standards we must consider, the International Building Code, NFPA-70 The National Electrical Code, NFPA-110 Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems and NFPA-72 The National Fire Alarm Code.

The code path to NFPA-72 (NFAC) is established by way of the Building Subcode and 2006 IBC/NJ 907.2. The code path to NFPA-110 is established by way of the Electrical Subcode and the 2005/2008 NEC and Fine Print Notes (FPN's) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.16(a)2.i., these codes and standards are considered "adopted by reference" to the extent prescribed by each related section(s) of the Electrical Subcode, and may be cited as a requirement (or a violation) of the Uniform Construction Code.

2002 NFPA 72 (NFPA-72) provides the following with regards to secondary power where a generator is utilized;

4.4.1.5.1 Secondary Power Supply for Protected Premises Fire Alarm Systems.

A dedicated branch circuit of an automatic-starting, engine-driven generator arranged in accordance with 4.4.1.9.3.1 and storage batteries dedicated to the fire alarm system with 4 hours of capacity arranged in accordance with 4.4.1.8.

4.4.1.9.3.1 Protected Premises.

Engine-driven generators used to provide secondary power for a protected premises fire

alarm system shall comply with NFPA110, Chapter 4, requirements for a Type 10, Class 24, Level 1 System. Installation shall be in accordance with NFPA70, (NEC) Article 700 (Emergency Systems).

4.4.1.9.3.1 provides what could be overlooked; Where survivability of circuits is required by Chapter 6, equal protection shall be provided for power supply circuits.

Survivability is required where building occupants are partially evacuated or relocated. So we need to ask is the power supply circuit to the fire alarm equally protected according to the two hour fire attack survivability requirements of NFPA-72 6.9.4.?

NEC Article 700 provides requirements that pertain to emergency power sources including but not limited to equipment approvals (700.3), capacity and rating (700.5) transfer equipment (700.6), signals (700.7), wiring, and wiring fire protection (700.9) and internal combustion engines (700.12). It's important to note that Article 700 is addressing a "system" and not just the generator unit.

The NEC provides;

Emergency systems those **systems** legally required and classed as emergency by municipal, state, federal, or other codes, or by any governmental agency having jurisdiction. These systems are intended to automatically supply illumination, power, or both, to designated areas and equipment in the event of failure of the normal supply or in the event of accident to elements of a system intended to supply, distribute, and control power and illumination essential for safety to human life.

NFPA-110 provides additional criteria including but not limited to Type of Emergency Power System (EPS), Supply Time in Hours (T-4.1), and Performance Level (4.4.1)

The question one needs to ask is does the generator arrangement fully comply with NEC Article 700 and NFPA-110 as an emergency system?

The response may be that the generator "complies with the NEC" but keep in mind that the NEC also provides Articles 701 Legally Required Standby Systems and 702 Optional Standby Systems and these systems while similar in many ways don't meet the criteria set forth in Article 700.

Continued on page 4

In summary where backup power is provided from a generator it's imperative that we ascertain and verify that the generator system complies with the applicable codes and standards in order to be used as secondary source of power for a fire alarm system.

John Drucker serves as a Building Inspector, Electrical Inspector, and the Fire Protection Subcode Official for the Fire Marshal's Office, Borough of Red Bank, NJ. He is a 32 year veteran of the fire service attaining the rank of captain of a combination truck/engine company in the Middletown Township Fire Department where he also serves on the Departments Planning and Advisory Board and as the departments National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) coordinator. Prior to joining the Fire Marshal's Office he worked for more than 20 years in both electrical and fire protection capacities culminating as Sr. Project Manager for Siemens at the World Trade Center from 1993 to 2001.



Results of the May 21 Board of Directors Election

The Board of Directors of the AFAANJ wishes to congratulate and welcome George Voorhees as our newest member. George comes onto the board after a very close race with Joe Cioffi III. We wish to thank Joe for running and look forward to his continued participation as our liaison with the NJBFAA.

Bob Boyer and Jim Loftus are both to be congratulated for being reelected for another three years.

It is with a heavy heart the Board of Directors wish Scott Nichols farewell and nothing but the best; he has served selflessly for many years as a member of the board and will still keep us updated as to the shenanigans in Trenton. Thanks Scott, well done!

Our thanks to all that serve on the Board, without whom there would be no AFAANJ

is the only one of its kind in the Northeast.

All children attend free of charge. All expenses for lodging, meals, arts/crafts, activities, and programs are paid for by the Foundation.

Most of these children have never seen a campground or enjoyed an overnight camp-out, let alone the many other camp activities which include camp fires, hiking, fishing, archery, boating, and a challenging ropes course.

Active and retired firefighters from Fire Departments along the East Coast, medical personnel trained in treating burns, burn survivors, and caring individuals help round out the team of counselors for the children. All counselors serve on a volunteer basis.

AFAANJ can only support causes such as the Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp without the support of our members. Our only source of income is our training and the past two classes were very close to losing money.

I'm not going to take anyplace up here telling you what to look for on the web site go there and look it up yourself.

I leave you with an update as to the activities of the NBFAA.

The House Rules Committee passed H.R. 2187, the "21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act." Included in that bill ([read full text](#)) is language (see below and page 10 of the bill) that the NBFAA was able to include with the help of Representative Michael Arcuri (D-NY) allowing grants for modernization, renovation or repair of public school facilities to bring "public schools into compliance with fire, health, seismic, and safety codes, including professional installation of fire/life safety alarms..." The bill authorizes \$6.4 Billion over five years and the grant monies would go to local education agencies that are K-12. It is anticipated that the House will pass the bill soon and send it over to the Senate. NBFAA will begin to work with state chapters and individual members to have the Senate H.E.L.P. Committee pass the bill.

NBFAA language in the bill:

(3) bringing public schools into compliance with fire, health, seismic, and safety codes, including professional installation of fire/life safety alarms, including modernizations, renovations, and repairs that ensure that schools are prepared for emergencies, such as improving building infrastructure to accommodate security measures;

My very best regards,

Ed



Automatic Fire Alarm Association, Inc.

PO Box 1569

Jasper, GA 30143

678-454-FIRE (3473)/678-454-3474 Fax

fire-alarm@afaa.org/www.afaa.org

April 22, 2009

Dear Fire Protection Industry Professional,

I'd like to propose a change of thinking for the fire protection industry. Rather than promoting one technology over the other, we should be promoting a unified voice to improve life safety. We all know that fire sprinklers and smoke detectors provide life safety in different ways. As fire protection professionals, our common goal is to save lives.

On the residential front, the residential fire sprinkler initiative is meeting resistance in several areas. We should not forget, however, the value of smoke alarms in homes. Sending a message that both should be installed sends a clear message that both are needed to improve life safety in homes. An Annex note in NFPA 13 even refers to this, stating that fire sprinklers are best used in conjunction with smoke alarms. We need to send the right message so homeowners are not confused about what they should have installed in their homes. They should have both sprinklers and smoke alarms.

For commercial occupancies, there are too many trade-offs in the codes that allow fire alarm equipment to be eliminated if fire sprinklers are installed. Some are valid. Some are not. For example, the smoke detector installed to protect fire alarm control equipment. In this case, simply having a sprinkler system in the building in no way provides the same level of protection for the equipment that a smoke detector will provide. The purpose is to allow the control to perform its function prior to being disabled by a fire. The sprinkler system may not do this due to signaling delays.

The entire fire protection industry can benefit in our goal of reducing fire deaths and injuries by working more closely together toward this common goal rather than working against one another. I propose that all segments of the fire protection industry work together to promote life safety and say "Fire Sprinklers and Smoke Detectors Save Lives".

AFAA has promoted a balanced approach to fire protection for years. The Automatic Fire Alarm Association wants to help fight the challenges that are arising around the country to not allow local AHJ's to require residential fire sprinklers. If the fire alarm and fire sprinkler industries work together, we will have a stronger voice to fight these challenges. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas P. Hammerberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas P. Hammerberg, SET, CFPS
President/Executive Director