



Washington DC Chapter

P.O. Box 6189 McLean Virginia 22106

News

February 2008 Issue

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS

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President's Message



James Yang, CPD, President

Washington DC Chapter Officers Election

We greatly appreciate everybody's support in the past years. A New Year has started for all of us. We are currently encouraging everybody who is interested with the officer's position to apply. If you are interested in applying, please send an email to James Yang, the chapter president, at jyang@ghtltd.com, or vice-presidents Juan Rojas at vrojas@integralpe.com or Ron Ball at ron_ball@urscorp.com.

All position qualifications and duties are listed in the attached PDF. Opening for applications are open as of today (2/4/08), and will end 4/11/08. All new officers will be selected before 5/14/08.

If you are willing to make a difference in our local chapter, the region and the society, please stand up for yourself.

James Yang

ASPE-DC Chapter President



In This Issue:

<i>Presidents Message</i>	1
<i>Golf Outing Flyer</i>	2
<i>Treasurer Report</i>	4
<i>Meeting Location</i>	6

ASPE DC Announcements

Juan Rojas, VP Technical

Good job everyone!

Good attendance and a great presentation by Mr. Mohile, it was as good as they come I personally enjoyed and learned a lot from his very informative presentation, hope everyone feels the same way. I encourage everybody to write to us with your thoughts about this presentation and any other presentation. We really need your feedback so we can improve our meeting; every comment counts whether praise or critic is always constructive.

Over a period of several years the chapter meetings have been taking place in Virginia and it appears that we might be relocating to a place in Maryland. Again, this is an item where we need your comments as well. It is important to remember that we all are part of this chapter and by working together we can make it better.

If you have not gotten a chance to take the online survey that was sent out, please make sure to take a few minutes out of your already hectic schedule and give it a try. This will help the chapter a great deal to have a general consensus. As always, thank you very much for your support.

This month tech session guest speaker is Mr. A. Maurice Jones, Jr. he is the supervisory Fire Protection Engineer for the Alexandria Fire and EMS Department's, Code Enforcement Bureau, Fire Protection Systems Unit in Alexandria, Virginia.

Gareth Koogle with STH is hosting the table top demonstration. Concentrating on pump's VFD drives and controls. With today's energy saving conscientious citizens and the great green building design concept it will be a great opportunity to learn about the advantages of VFD drives.

Fire protection Systems:

As defined by IBC, approved devices, equipment and systems or combination of systems used to detect a fire, activate an alarm, extinguish or control a fire, control or manage smoke and products of a fire or any combination thereof.

For plumbing engineers fire protection system is limited to making provisions of automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems and most of the time, at the performance spec level. However with this portion of the entire fire protection system there are a lot of questions, which I refer to them as vague within the code and most of the time left to the interpretation of the local code authority.

Here's a chance to bring the one vague question to Mr. Jones and hopefully his response will give you a better understanding of it. Please come prepared and bring your questions.

Again, thank you for your support; I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Juan Rojas
VP Tech
ASPE DC Chapter

Code Updates

Ron Ball, VP Legislative

February 2008

It is almost Super Bowl Sunday so I hope everyone designed their toilet rooms to withstand the water and sewer demand during halftime.

Code Issues

Michigan

The Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (CISPI) recently issued a letter concerning cast iron pipe and fittings standards. Last fall the Michigan Construction Code Commission rejected cast iron materials manufactured by MWI Import Products for state construction projects. MWI is a Chinese manufacturer of cast iron materials. The commission denied approval of the products because MWI was unable to provide proof that their products conformed to applicable standards referenced in the Michigan Plumbing Code. For anyone interested the record of the proceedings is available at www.michigan.gov/cis. This is a good example of an industry standards organization, CISPI (www.cispi.org) working with code officials to maintain quality control in plumbing products.

Having cut my teeth so to speak in my home state of Michigan I am not surprised by this ruling. The Michigan codes have always been conservative and watchful of standards of quality. This is a reminder to us all to become more aware of the various standards in the codes such as ASME, ASTM, CISPI, etc. when writing our specifications and reviewing submittal documents. CISPI and other organizations do an outstanding job of testing and reviewing product quality and safety but ultimately it is our job as design professionals to ensure the products we specify and install meet the code and industry standards.

If any of you have encountered a situation where non-conforming materials or fixtures were used or substituted let me know so I can include it in a future newsletter.

Happy Chinese New Year to you all.

Ron

Reference

Cast Iron Soil Institute, 2008, Chattanooga, Tennessee, www.cispi.org





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Chapter Meeting Location

Washington Chapter meetings are currently being held at the Olive Garden located on Route 7 (8133 Leesburg Pike) in Tyson's Corner. Please join us for our **General Meeting September 19, 2007**

Call for directions: (703) 893-3175



All Reservations for dinner are requested by:
Noon, Tuesday February 19, 2008

RSVP to the evite

Email Justin Lego at nfuegolego@hotmail.com to be added to mailing list.

Dinner:	Member:	\$28.00
	Non-Member	\$30.00