



WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER ASPE NEWS

PO Box 3875 Frederick, MD 21705

May 2009 Issue

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS
CHAPTERS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO SPEAK FOR THE SOCIETY

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President's Message



JUAN ROJAS,
PRESIDENT



The value of your ASPE membership!

We all need to feel that we belong to something. And I know that in most professional organizations the problem is the same...memberships keep declining. Some of the members that have renewed their membership say that the quality and value of the membership is not that same and that their company of employment is not reimbursing for their memberships due to the current trying economic times.

This leaves us with the challenge to create an atmosphere where the member can feel the value that he/she belongs to something important and that he/she is valued as well. There is a committee within ASPE national that is working to spread more useful information to the members.

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The Lenten season is a time of personal reflection and in that same vein I did a little reflection on the code revision process. Recently I read an article in *The New York Times* concerning efforts to separate urine from solid waste in Europe and China by means of a dual system toilet. The purpose is to separate the minerals, etc. from the urine and use them as fertilizer. This reuse of the urine not only produces expense-free fertilizer but it aids the waste water treatment process. The sewage treatment process is slowed by the content of the urine and waste water treatment uses an enormous amount of water. Thus if the treatment process can be sped up a substantial savings in water is achieved. What does this have to do with the plumbing code revision cycle? We are all aware of the emphasis on LEED and ASHRAE 90.1 for example to conserve energy and the environment. It seems that the code revision process is falling behind the technological advancements that continue to be developed. For instance, say approval for the urine separation system was proposed as an addition to the IPC. If the system was approved and allowed to become part of the code it would not take affect until 2012 at the earliest. And because some jurisdictions such as Chicago, Ohio, etc. modify the code or are slow to update it could be another 3 years before being fully implemented. Now we are looking at 2015, meanwhile some local code officials may not accept or reject the system for various reasons resulting in appeals, etc. Therefore it is conceivable that it could take 6-10 years for this urine separation system to be widely used. Think of the advancements in plumbing design implemented over the last 10 years and what could evolve over the next few years. Unless there is a way to speed up the code revision process many very worthwhile energy and environmental alternatives, already in use in Europe and elsewhere, will languish in plumbing code purgatory. Please feel free to email me your comments and suggestions concerning this issue.

Reference

George, Rose (2009). Yellow is the new green. *The New York Times*. Downloaded February 27, 2009 from

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/27/opinion/27george.html>

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President's Message Continued...

Do you know that by not doing a small investment to renew your membership and not knowing how to take advantage of many of the benefits that ASPE membership provide, you could lose touch with an authority source of information, real and objective, of the plumbing industry?

Please rest assured that we understand and value your support and membership, and we do not want to risk the lost of your support. As a chapter officer I would like to know what kind of information in particular you are looking for, and how you would like to see this information disseminated, please let us know your concerns, and suggestions.

Listed below are a few of the many values and benefits of ASPE membership.

- **ASPE Plumbing Engineering Design Handbook.**
- **ASPE Biennial Technical Symposium**
- **ASPE Biennial Convention and Engineered Plumbing Exposition.**
- **Monthly Chapter Meetings and Technical Seminar and Networking Opportunities.**

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Sincerely,

Juan Rojas
President
ASPE DC Chapter

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Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

During the ASPE Convention delegates voted on changing our membership policy. Our current policy allows a 90-day grace period for those who have not renewed by the expiration date. This policy was amended and now states there is no 90-day grace period for those missing their expiration date and from that point going forward they are no longer a member of ASPE. The recommendation is that renewing your membership should be deemed as a high priority. Now if you fall in the category of having received your second notice, please renew as quickly as possible so as to not be dropped from the official roster.

On another note, we fell short of our goal to grow our chapter to 200 members before the end of the year but guess what? We have a whole new year to attain this goal. So for those sitting on the fence, we ask that you get in the game and be a member of this great organization. For those of you who know of or have access to individuals who would benefit from joining us have them contact me at dewilson@ghtltd.com or any other officer listed in this newsletter.

Lastly, the chapter hosted its annual holiday social in December at Phillips Seafood in Annapolis. I was informed that it was a great turnout and the food was delish! If anyone has ideas about a new location feel free to contact the board. We are open to a new adventure

Thanks for lending me your ear.

V.P. Membership
Derek E. Wilson



I'd like to thank April's technical speaker Frank Murphy, PE from AECOM Design who spoke about fire hydrant testing. The presentation was very informative and provided a lot of hands on fundamental knowledge. Now all those who attended should be able to observe a fire flow test with confidence.

Thanks to all that were able to come.

Also, I would like to thank Gareth Koogle/Tim Mullineaux with STH for being the Table Top Presenter.

The May 20, 2009 speaker will be Mike Gilmore and the topic will be fire ATS Specification writing.

This is the last chapter meeting until September, so please join us this month. If there is topic or speaker you would like to see at a technical session at the monthly meeting, please feel free to contact me at matt.lane@aecom.com.

Hope to see you there.

Matthew Lane, CPD, LEED® AP, CFPS
VP Tech

FUN STUFF



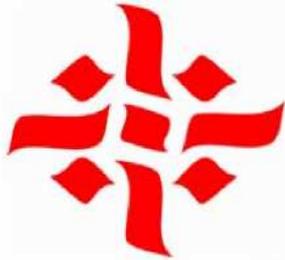
I found this guy at the corner of 395 & New York Ave. I thought Southland was busy?

So this is how Donald got the extra money for his 'Vette!



Here's a shot of our Historian studying the Greek Culture





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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 May 19, 2009**
Call for directions: (703) 893-3175



All Reservations for dinner are requested by:
Noon, Tuesday May 19, 2009

RSVP to the evite
Email Chris Barnard <mailto:cbarnardsr@yahoo.com> to be added to mailing list.

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



Please take a minute to notice
the newest changes on the
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comments regarding the
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