

ASPE NEWS

American Society of Plumbing Engineers
Eastern Michigan Chapter
www.aspe.org/Eastern_Michigan

Serving our membership since 1975

Vol. 9, Issue 4

Plumbing Design Class

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005
NEW regular meeting day:
2nd Wednesday of the month

Time: 5:30 - 9:00 PM
Dinner & Class

Cost: ASPE & ASSE Members: NC
Non-members: \$15.00

Location: Plumbing Training Center
1911 Ring Rd., Troy, MI
SEE map on back page

Topic: Legal Issues & Liabilities
Regarding Mold - *As it applies to the Plumbing Design Professional and other members of the Plumbing Industry*

Speaker: James Partridge
SEE bio on page 3

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2006

Design and Installation of

Instantaneous Hot Water Systems

Speaker: TBA

See the full class schedule on our web site.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

RSVP prior to day of class

Phil McCrory, VP Tech:

(810) 736-8871 phone

pmccrory72@hotmail.com

inside...

VP Technical Report	3
Speaker Bio	3
Mark Your Calendar	4
VP Legislative Report	5
VP Membership Report	5

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Esteban Cabello, PE, CIPE



I extend apologies for being unable to attend last month's meeting. This month we will talk about something a little different, but extremely important to all of us – how plumbing can cause indoor mold and legal issues regarding mold. Our guest speaker is James Partridge PE, from James Partridge Associates (*see bio on page 3*). If you are a contractor, owner, facilities manager, architect, engineer or inspector, this meeting topic should be of interest to you. You will learn how incorrect

plumbing maintenance, installation and design could lead to indoor mold and its consequences. I again ask that you RSVP so we can better account for dinner. Remember, dinner is free to all ASPE and ASSE members. The ASPE symposium which was held in Chicago last month was a success. Remember, the convention is next year (*October 22-25, 2006*) in Tampa, and I'm sure it will be better than the last. With the holiday season beginning once again - ASPE and I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Your president,

Esteban

Hurricane Relief Efforts

Ron George, CIPE/CPD



Ron George and Ray Tobin during hurricane relief efforts.

In September, a fellow volunteer firefighter, Ray Tobin, and I flew to Baton Rouge, LA to help with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. The national news reported there was no food, water power or gasoline in the areas where we were going, so we brought enough dried food, bottled water and medical supplies to sustain ourselves on the trip. When we

arrived in Baton Rouge, we went to a Wal-Mart store and purchased plenty of supplies including extra gas cans and cases of water. We also brought three bags of medical supplies and our fire department bunker gear to help with relief efforts. We drove into New Orleans and reported to a Salvation Army distribution and relief center. It was an old Kmart store that had been recently

continued on page 4

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VP TECHNICAL REPORT

Philip McCrory



Our next ASPE meeting will be on mold. I already know what you are thinking. You've made up your mind not to show up because your wife already yelled at you enough for the pizza you left in the refrigerator for too long. And, you certainly don't want to sit through an hour-long meeting getting the 'talk' about the office refrigerator that hasn't been cleaned

out since last Labor Day. No, this doesn't have anything to do with that. This has to do with plumbing.

Down the road is a real fancy multi-story mall. Someone decided to put a food court on the top floor. My niece has a clothing store directly below a restaurant that dumps a lot of soy sauce down the drain. First, the ceilings of her store got all gooey. Then, when that finally saturated, it rained soy sauce on the clothing merchandise below. Thousand of dollars worth of clothes had to be thrown out. In time, repairs were made to the pipe, and ladies could once again buy clothes without taking home the soy smell.

Meanwhile, across town, some right-out-of-college-architect showed up at our office. He unrolled his masterpiece to the world: a two story Tex Mex restaurant. He wanted us to do the plumbing design. Instead of lining up each floors restrooms using a common chase, he had to be artsy and arrange the

restrooms in different places on different floors. I noticed that the second floor restroom was directly over the first floor cooking area. Basically the frying pan on the cooking grille was a bull's eye target from the toilet directly above. With the exhaust hood chase and the clearances given to us, the only place to route the second floor restroom piping was going directly over the cooking surface below. I was told not to worry – after all, there was a ceiling at the first floor, and if installed correctly, pipes don't leak that much.

My mind went back to seeing soy sauce rain in my niece's clothing store. I made a mental note that if I ever did eat at this restaurant, not to order the seven layer burrito.

Over the years through expansion and contraction, pipe movement and vibration, pipes will leak. There is condensation on pipes, and valve stems and gaskets will wear out. I have even seen new installations leak. Once the ceiling and drywall go up, the pipe is forgotten about until the leaks start. Then little microscopic wiggly things start to thrive on that little bit of moisture. Then they invite all their cousins and in-laws, and you've got mold problems. Ceilings, drywall and carpet are common areas that trap dampness because of their porous nature and act as a wick. Mold leads to sickness and sickness leads to suffering. This should be a very important class for all of us to attend, because as the poster in the training center foyer says: "Plumbers protect the health of the nation."

I want to thank those that showed up for our meeting on double containment pipe and special thanks to our speaker Craig Szachta of IPEX. Also, lots of thanks to our vendors, Mike and Gary Taggart of the Taggart-Knight team, Tim Ryan of FiberGlass Systems, Tom Stremпка and Shannon Zettle of Corrosion Fluid Products.

Thanks, Phil

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December Speaker Bio

James Partridge

James Partridge, PE, will be our guest speaker. The topic will be mold and liability issues regarding mold. Mr. Partridge, a graduate of Lawrence Technological University, has been involved in the construction industry for over 35 years. He is a registered engineer in over a dozen states, is certified in IAQ and many other related specialties. He has been a lecturer and speaker for over 100 seminars, classes, and symposia over the past 5 years in the areas of mold and water intrusion. Mr. Partridge is published and is the President of James Partridge Associates, Inc. since 1981.

Wishing you and your family peace and joy during the holiday season and throughout the new year.



Hurricane Relief - continued from page 1

closed. We helped load and unload trucks of food and supplies and we worked in the Salvation Army field kitchen (*pictured top left*) that provided over 12,000 meals per day. The kitchen provided hot meals in insulated serving trays that we loaded on approximately 50 Salvation Army mobile food serving vans. We also loaded fruit, bananas, apples and oranges, on the vans with bottled water and other beverages as donations came in. We formed two lines for the vans to drive through and be loaded with food for their trips into the city of New Orleans each day. At night we slept at a nearby school building at the First Baptist Church in La Place, Louisiana (just west of New Orleans). The school's classrooms had been converted into bunk rooms for relief workers. When we arrived at the school at night, the congregation members had prepared meals for the relief workers. Many of the relief workers there were from southeast Texas. We awoke one morning to find our room was empty except for the two of us. During the night, our roommates learned Hurricane Rita was headed directly for their home towns, so they left in the middle of night to drive back to Texas and evacuate their own families from their coastal homes. The following morning we went in and prepared meals for the day with a significant shortage in manpower. That afternoon after preparing the days meals we were told Hurricane Rita will hit New Orleans within the next 24 hours and the storm surge will overtop the levee system causing significant flooding again. High winds and rain were expected, so they asked us to evacuate. At least half of the Salvation Army equipment left that day for Texas to preposition for Hurricane Rita relief efforts. Ray and I decided we would travel east out of the path of the Hurricane Rita and into the severely devastated areas of Mississippi where Hurricane Katrina had passed through a week and a half prior. When we crossed into Mississippi we encountered total devastation near Bay St. Louis, Long Beach and Gulfport, Mississippi. There was so much destruction in Bay St. Louis, there were no relief centers, because there was no one left to relieve. We found a disaster relief center at "New Life Church" and school in Long Beach, Mississippi. We spent the next several days there unloading trucks in the rain from Hurricane Rita, and providing medical treatment in a classroom in the school building that was serving as a distribution center. One afternoon while we were there, the wind and rain picked up and blew down the power lines. We spent the night in the dark and issued supplies the next day by the light of the windows in the building. There were several circus tents full of supplies on the grounds. We unloaded supplies from trucks outside on the grounds and placed the food and supplies under the tents. The supplies were then carried into the school and sorted into different classrooms by product. There were rooms full of food, clothes, diapers, health supplies, etc. From the classrooms, volunteers would keep the cafeteria of the school stocked like a grocery store and local residents could fill out a FEMA relief form and then get up to 3 bags of food, clothes and supplies each day. One day we ran out of forms and one evening several ladies sat there making copies of the forms by hand. Outside, the hurricane victims could get all of the clothes and bottled water they could carry from under tarps and tents. There were numerous stores that donated socks, underwear, shoes, clothes health sup-

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



ASSE MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet
Saturday - January 28, 2006
St. Johns Conference Center

5:00 - 11:00 PM

Dancing and Entertainment
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plies and food. Camping tents were pitched outside for relief workers and after Hurricane Rita's winds moved in, the tents blew away and the relief workers had to move into the school building and sleep on the floors among the supplies. On a couple of occasions we had a break from unloading trucks and we asked a nurse to cover the medical station for us. Ray and I were then able to drive over (*finding gas wasn't easy - see gas station on page 4, center photo*) to the coastal areas of Long Beach, Mississippi to see the hurricane damage first hand. There was significant roof and building damage to all structures in the region. When we got within several miles of the coast, there was a set of elevated railroad tracks that provided a restriction where the National Guard placed coils of razor wire to prevent unauthorized access to the severely damaged coastal areas. The railroad tracks were washed off the roadbed and unusable. We were wearing our fire department shirts, so we were allowed to go through the checkpoints and photograph the devastation. Every building within several miles of the coast was wiped off of its foundation and reduced to rubble. Driving around Long beach was like driving through a blizzard (*see photo above*), except instead of snow, it was building debris, cars, appliances, cargo ships, and container trucks spread all over the streets. Front end loaders and bull dozers cleared paths along the roadways and they were loading an endless line of semi-trucks with debris to haul away. We came upon two ladies on their porch and they waved us down and asked if we could help them. They were removing some of their belongings from their house and while they were there the power came on. They called the power company and the power company told them it was not possible for them to have power because all the main lines were down. What had apparently happened was someone nearby had connected an emergency generator to their home and the power was back-feeding into the downed power lines. I shut-off her main circuit breaker and then Ray and I helped them gather some of their belongings. Many of the homes had notes in the front door or in windows letting friends and relative know they were unharmed and who they were staying with. This was an experience of a lifetime to see how destructive a hurricane can be and I am glad I had a chance to go and help out. Pictures could never describe the enormity of the destruction.

Ron George, CIPE, CPD
President, Ron George Design & Consulting Services

VP LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Barry Pines, CIPE/CPD



Trap Primers

As a follow up to my previous article, I have been advised by ASSE National's Executive Director Shannon Corcoran, that she has had conversation with Mr. Robert Konyndyk (Chief - Plumbing Division - State of Michigan) in an effort to eliminate this problem. It appears that when the 2003 ICC Plumbing Code was published the

Standards for Trap Primers were accidentally overlooked and therefore not updated by reference.

They are currently working to try and get these Standards updated, but it is a long slow process. The problem is that by the time this gets worked out the 2006 Codes will be out.

A question for everyone:

Has anyone heard about an issue with gas piping having to be a minimum of 3" above the roof? I ran into this on a school project this summer.

I will try to get more information for my next article.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Barry

VP MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Cindy Zatto



The ASPE Eastern Michigan Chapter currently has 129 members. Membership applications are available on line at www.aspe.org/Eastern_Michigan or www.aspe.org, in print from any board member, and at the hospitality desk at ASPE monthly Plumbing Design Class. Members receive Plumbing Engineering Design Book, *Plumbing Systems & Design Magazine*, and the opportunity for collegial interaction and networking.

I would like to extend a welcome our newest 2005 members!

Darrem Garey, Mechanical Professional Services

Lar Brown, City of East Lansing

Please feel free to contact me at (810) 343-2713 or cindy@vesalesinc.com

Cindy

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:GROANER: Three cowboys were hanging out in the bunkhouse. "I know that smart-alec Tex," said the first. "He's going to start brag-
:ging about that new foreign car he bought as soon as he gets back." "Not Tex," said the second. "He'll always be just a good ol' boy.
:When he walks in, I'm sure all he'll say is hello." "I know Tex better than any of you," said the third. "He's so smart, he'll figure out a
:way to do both. Here he comes now!" Tex swung open the bunkhouse door and shouted, "Audi, partners!"
:.....

ASPE NEWS

American Society of Plumbing Engineers-Eastern Michigan Chapter

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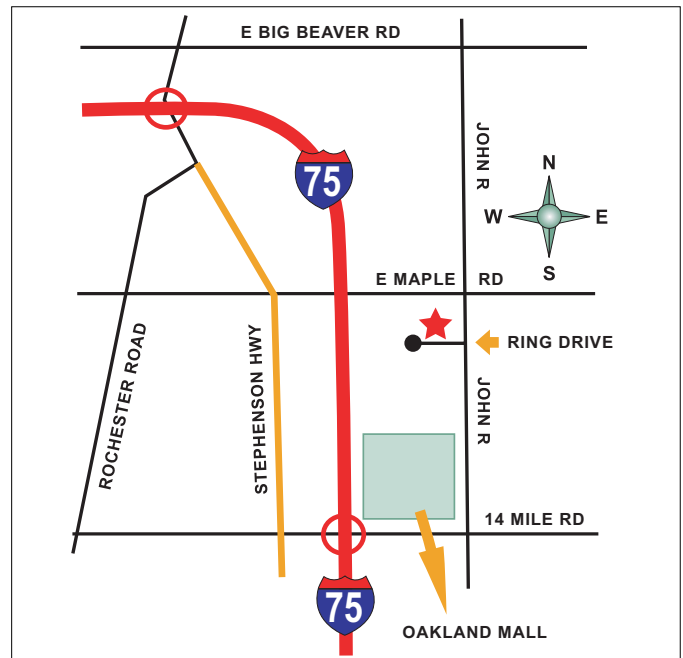
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