



# NEWS

Eastern Michigan Chapter \*  
[http://aspe.org/Eastern\\_Michigan](http://aspe.org/Eastern_Michigan)

Serving our membership since 1975

Vol. 16, Issue 6

## Plumbing Design Classes

**Date:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013  
**Where:** Plumbing Industry Training Center  
*SEE map on back page*

**LEADING SESSION**  
**4:00 PM**

**DINNER**  
**5:00 - 5:30 PM**

**Cost:** ASPE, ASSE, MBPA Mbrs: NC  
 Non-members: \$18.00 FOR DINNER

**TABLE TOP VIEWING**  
**5:45 - 6:00 PM**

**DESIGN CLASS**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Topic:** NFPA-99 HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CODE

**Speaker:** Mark Allen - BeaconMedæ

See page 3 for program & bio and the full event schedule on our web site. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
 Contact Dann Holmes, Director/ Chapter Affiliate:  
[dann.holmes7@gmail.com](mailto:dann.holmes7@gmail.com) - (248) 939-2476

### MARCH'S UPCOMING PROGRAM

New ASHRAE Standard 188P Guideline 12  
 Ronald L. George & Ed Lyczko

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## From Joe Hernandez, CPD President of EMC ASPE



Greetings and I hope your New Year is progressing well. Allow me to ask a question, did you make a New Year's resolution? Maybe it was to get into shape and lose those pesky pounds that were put on from the holidays? Have you kept it? This is just one promise we make to ourselves that is never kept, right? Well let's say that you made a resolution to do a bit of personal development and I'm not talking about those abs, I mean professional development. The Eastern Michigan

Chapter of ASPE is the place to be, in as much that, we have several programs that will allow doing exactly that, to develop professionally.

First let me say, last month we kicked off the New Year with an excellent program on backflow prevention as found in Fire Protection Systems. Our speaker was Gunnar Collins and if you like audience participation, you should have been there. Not only was he entertaining but the information was up to date based on the latest codes and his delivery was poignant. Our evening sponsors were Dave Watson and V. E. Sales. Thank you for your generosity! Oh, Ginny was back and she is doing just fine, she is a tough lady!

Let's get back to those PDs, our February program will stocked with opportunities to handle the New Year resolutions. February 19th will cover the NFPA 99 Healthcare Facility Code. A seminar on design is planned and there is a flyer in this Newsletter to register for this all important program.

On February 26 and 28 there will be a workshop on the theory, design, practice and installation of a Steam. This will be a total of 8 hours of everything you wanted to know about steam but were afraid to ask. A Flyer will be out shortly covering the registration and particulars.

Our sister-organization, Detroit ASHRAE is teaming up with the Eastern Michigan Chapter to have a combined meeting in March for a presentation on the New ASHRAE Standard 188P and Guideline 12, covering Legionella bacteria. Our presenter for this event is Ron George, CPD.

Also in March there will be two review sessions for those planning to sit for the CPD exam. A flyer is available to register for this clinic.

It is comprised of (2) half-day sessions and a review of all topics covered in the exam. The clinic will be given by me, Joe Hernandez, CPD.

Continued on page 2

\* Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society.



**STEAM THEORY, DESIGN & PRACTICE SEMINAR**

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 and Thursday, February 28, 2013 from Noon to 5PM. This is a two (1/2) day session. See page 11 for more info. **This is for our members, please take advantage.**

**MARCH PROGRAM - JOINT VENTURE**

Tuesday, March 19, 2013 will be a joint venture with ASPE EMC and ASHRAE Detroit Chapter. Topic will be on the New ASHRAE Standard 188P & Guideline 12 on Legionella along with ASSE Series 6000 Medical Gas Standard. **Don't miss this one!**

**MED GAS DESIGN GUIDE TRAINING SEMINAR**

Wednesday, February 20 or March 20, 2013  
**Filling up fast so register today!**  
Plumbing Industry Training Center - See flyer - page 15

**ASPE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE ALFRED STEELE SCHOLARSHIP**

The Alfred Steele Scholarship has \$3,000 in available monies for qualified applicants. Is limited to ASPE members and their immediate families who have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, who are enrolled in or plan to enroll in an engineering program at a college, university, or technical school on a full-time basis. Contact Stacey Kidd for more information at (847) 296-0002, or email skidd@aspe.org

**PLUMBING TRAINING CENTER ASSE BACKFLOW RE-CERTIFICATION**

We'll be giving an ASSE Backflow Re-Certification class to any member who is eligible. If you're interested, please call the Training Center and get your name on the sign-up list for the next class training.

**MED GAS INSTALLERS CERTIFICATION**

Most members' Installer's certs will expire before the next Med Gas Standards are issued in late 2012. Before your Installer certification expires, you need to apply for an extension with the NITC. Extension forms are available at the Plumbers Union Hall and Training Center.

**CPD EXAM WORKSHOP**

Saturdays, March 16th & 23rd of 2013  
MCA Detroit location - go to ASPE EMC website for info. Registration form in upcoming Newsletter.

**NOTE: ALL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS CAN BE VIEWED ON THE ASPE EMC WEBSITE AT [WWW.ASPE.ORG/EASTERN\\_MICHIGAN](http://WWW.ASPE.ORG/EASTERN_MICHIGAN)**

**JOB POSTING**

Plumbing - Piping Detailer  
AutoCAD experience preferred but not required  
Call Ron George at Plumb-Tech Design & Consulting Services, LLC at 734-755-1908

**President's Report**

*Continued from page 1*

If you would like to visit a facility that has implemented and operates a functioning Water Reuse System stayed tuned to our April meeting because we are in the process of setting up a tour of just such a facility. Our very own Cindy Zatto of VE Sales is planning this adventure and it will prove to be not only interesting but informative.

If you are still looking for ways to handle the 2013 professional development quest, you only need to attend the sessions I previously mentioned and you will be off to a great start. Our bundled data books are always available and at a tremendous savings, John Nussbaum will be happy to accommodate you. We are continually looking for ways to help the design professionals actively engaged in plumbing engineering. We always accept recommendations on program topics to bring to our membership and suggestions on how to improve. Got something on your mind that needs to be aired, just submit an article and it will be reviewed and published. If you would like to get involved to make a difference give me a call at 248-589-8010 or send me an e-mail: joequalitywaterair@gmail.com.

Your President,

Joe Hernandez, CPD

**For Plumbing Professionals including; Design Professionals, Contractors, Manufacturer's Representatives, Plumbing & Mechanical Inspectors and Journey & Master Plumbers, the ASSE Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet was held February 2, 2013. An evening of friendship and networking took place and select members received well-deserved awards. The Keynote Address will was from Jim Olszynski, the original founder of Plumbing & Mechanical Magazine first published in 1984. Jim touched on how the Industry has progressed over the years to where we are today. This year's banquet had some real surprises from beginning to end. Look for a write-up in upcoming issues.**

*Continued on page 5*

# Past President Report

**John Nussbaum, IPP, FASSE**



Are you a member; do you belong, support and/or participate in any of the following professional trade associations: MCAA Detroit Branch, American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) Michigan Chapter, American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE) Eastern Michigan Chapter, American Backflow Prevention Association and (MBPA) Michigan Backflow Prevention Association? If not, you are missing out on opportunities that have been known to be conduits to reaching the end user.

MCA Detroit speaks volumes to what it offers to its members in educational opportunities through its vast network of speakers and subjects to enhance their member's business growth. MCA Detroit Contractors and Associate members partake and take advantage of programs for job foremen, superintendents and office personnel, such as persons responsible for payroll activities. Other MCA Detroit activities include but are not limited to, are labor relations, safety committees, code and labor management, community events, such as the Eight Mile Boulevard Association Leadership Luncheon, which brings important people together from city, county and state government as well as large groups including, the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, Detroit Edison, Consumers Power Company and the Michigan Consolidated Gas Company. Small and large business people are seen here networking with other attendees including, general contractors, design professionals, professional engineers and manufacturing companies.

ASSE and ASPE chapters hold joint monthly educational dinner meetings sponsored by the manufactures that provide table top displays of their latest & the greatest products. Their catalogues are free and in some instances the manufacturer representatives are ASPE EMC program presenters, giving presentations on such topics as, Codes & Standards, Medical Gases, Hydronic Hot Water Heating Systems, Steam Heating and/or Industrial & Manufacturing Applications, Pump usage including all applications from domestic to commercial and institutional to industrial. At the ASPE EMC meetings, held on the third Tuesday of each month, you will be able to network with your peers, contractors, design professionals, master and journey plumbers, manufacturers' representatives, inspectors and in some instances the end user/buyer of your services. ASSE of Michigan and ASPE of Eastern Michigan also hold half day and full day seminars on related plumbing, mechanical and business topics.

MBPA (Michigan Backflow Prevention Association) members are made up of plumbing contractors, licensed journey and master plumbers, water purveyors, plumbing and fire protection engineers, water department backflow prevention inspectors, health department personnel and plan reviewers; all are charged with keeping our potable water

*Continued on page 6*

# February Program

**NFPA-99 Health Care Facilities Code**



Review of the changes in Medical Gas & Vacuum System Requirements from the 2005 to the 2012 Editions of NFPA 99 Health Care Facilities, prior to Michigan Adoption - A continuing education publication will be distributed to all attendees.

Mark Allen, has been involved in medical gas industry since 1978. He started out of college with one of the earliest certification firms back when "certification" of medical gas systems was just gaining credence. After seven years, he transitioned to a major manufacturer in 1985 and has performed various technical and marketing roles. He is now Marketing Director with BeaconMedæ.

## Overview of Med Gas Systems Starting at 4pm



Edward Lyczko began his five year plumbing apprenticeship in 1969 with Cleveland UA Plumbers Local #55. He recently retired from the Facilities Engineering Department of the 1,300 bed, internationally renowned,

Cleveland Clinic, where he had worked for 35 years (18 yrs. as Plumbing Supervisor). Lyczko is a voting member of the NFPA 99 – 2012 HEA-PIP medical gas committee and is a national speaker and a published author (both nationally and globally) of topics regarding backflow prevention and medical gas piping systems and their profound influences on healthcare delivery and patient safety.

Lyczko has been a member of the ASSE Northern Ohio Chapter for 26 years. He is on the Board of the Northern Ohio Chapter, serves on several committees of the International Society and is an International Past President of ASSE (2002-2003).

## ESD PROFESSIONAL BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS:

To find out about numerous benefits such as discount radio advertising, free email marketing, monthly networking events and many other discounted programs and services go to:

<http://ww2.esd.org/MEMBERSHIP/MemberBenefits.htm>

**GET YOUR BENEFITS NOW!**

# ASPE MEMBERSHIP

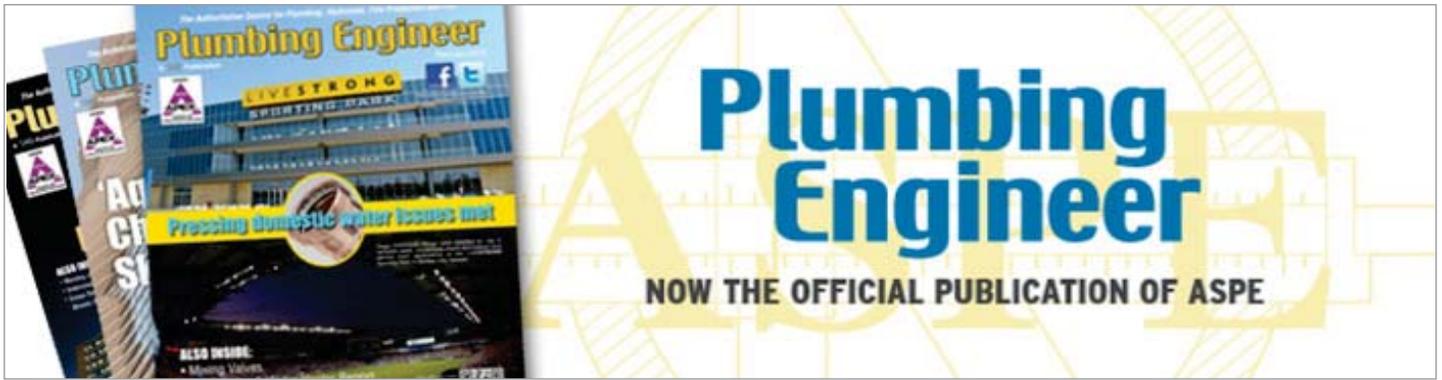
## The Value and Benefits of Membership

- ASPE Plumbing Engineering Design Handbook
- Monthly subscription to Plumbing Systems & Design magazine
- ASPE Report (in PS&D magazine)
- Biweekly ASPE Pipeline e-newsletter
- Members-only ASPEnet access (includes access to ASPE PEDH chapters)
- Publication and education program discounts
- ASPE Biennial Convention and Engineered Plumbing Exposition (even years)
- ASPE Biennial Technical Symposium (odd years)
- Technical seminars and workshops
- Access to earn continuing education units (CEUs)
- Technical books and manuals (specific to the profession of plumbing engineering)
- Professional certification / recertification
- Continuing education opportunities in PS&D magazine
- Alfred Steele Scholarship Program
- Local chapter affiliation
- Monthly chapter meetings and technical seminar opportunities
- Networking opportunities with plumbing engineers worldwide
- Leadership opportunities (national and chapter boards of directors and committees)

National ASPE Website: [www.aspe.org](http://www.aspe.org)

Local Michigan Chapter: [http://aspe.org/Eastern\\_Michigan](http://aspe.org/Eastern_Michigan)

**Please forward this to others of interest.**



## Alfred Steele Scholarship

Want some help getting your degree in engineering?  
 Apply for the ASPE Alfred Steele Scholarship.  
 Up to \$3,000 in scholarship monies may be awarded each year to qualified applicants.

**The Deadline Is January 31!**

The Alfred Steele Scholarship is limited to ASPE members and their immediate families who have a GPA of 3.0 or higher who are in or plan to attend a college, university, or technical school on a full-time basis (minimum 12 credit hours), enrolled in an engineering program.

This scholarship is named in honor of Alfred Steele, PE, a long-time member of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers and a visionary and pioneer in advocating education and professional development for plumbing engineers and designers.

**By Supporting the ASPE  
 Eastern Michigan Chapter**  
 you will be helping your  
 company grow as well as  
 strengthening the Chapter.  
**CALL TODAY and  
 SET UP YOUR WIN-WIN  
 with the Chapter.**

Call Theresa at 313-341-7661 ext. 210  
 or email [tgreen@mcadetroit.org](mailto:tgreen@mcadetroit.org)

**Ask About The Bundles**  
**New \$\$\$ Saving Book Deals**  
**Call John @ 313-341-7661**

**Registration for the  
 2013 CPD Exam  
 opened January 2, 2013.**  
**Exam dates for the  
 2013 CPD Exam are  
 April 18 and 19.**



## Past President's Report

Continued from page 3

safe. MBPA's spring conference draws well over 100 attendees from across the state to this annual conference. Backflow tester members bring their test gauges to the conference to be checked for proper calibration of and certification. Mid-West Instruments does the check and certification. Manufacturers again will provide table top displays of the various backflow devices and sponsor a continental breakfast and lunch at this all day educational offering and conference. Educational offerings consist of technical, Code/Standards ASSE Series 5000 along with legal and business topics. There is something for everyone. Again, you may be networking with representatives of the end users who send their people charged with the responsibility of keeping their potable water systems safe. Isn't it time you belonged?

In summing up all these associations and what they have in common to offer you, you will find they all have monthly, by monthly or quarterly publications of great value and access to other free plumbing and mechanical industry periodicals. I've pointed out the ability to learn and network at the same time with your peers, competitors, and end users. It is no surprise that those who belong and participate are doing fairly well because of the learning and networking opportunities they have gained through becoming members and attending these invaluable meetings. Join now and become part of the growing Plumbing and Mechanical Associated Industry.

John R. Nussbaum, IPP, FASSE

**2013: ASPE Technical Symposium**  
**September 19-22 - Orlando, FL**

*"Character is so largely affected by association, that we cannot afford to be indifferent as to who or what our friends are."*

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#### Ball Valves



Available in Sizes 1/2" to 4"

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Available in Sizes 1/2" to 2"

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Available in Sizes 1/2" to 2"

#### Backflow Prevention



Available in Sizes 1/2" to 2"

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CINDY ZATTO • CINDYZ@VESALESINC.COM

# Affiliate Liaison Report

## Dann Holmes



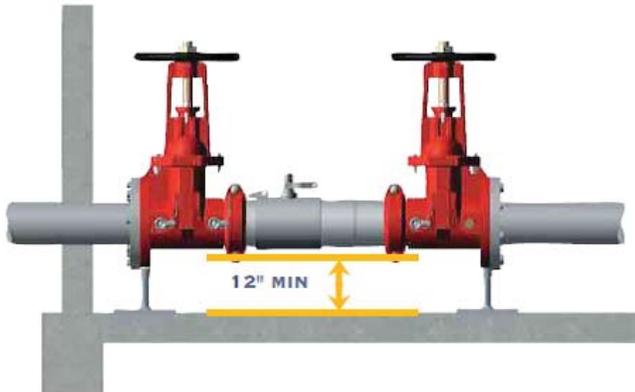
You couldn't have asked for a more vibrant presenter in January than Gunnar Collins. He didn't need a mic to get his message out. His voice resonated throughout the PITC. Rumor has it Ed Hawley turned off his hearing aid! I'll rely on others to write what Gunnar had to say. My focus is on those who helped our program with their financial support and

backflow product knowledge. With them, we can't grow as a chapter.

**Dave Watson & Associates** located in Adrian, MI (800) 589-5595 was represented by Rick Johnston. Rick displayed the Ames Colt & Maxim Series of backflow prevention assemblies and Spears FlameGuard CPVC Fire Sprinkler products.

Rick was quick to say the **Ames Colt and Maxim Series** of backflow devices are certified lowest pressure loss. They're manufactured with 304 stainless steel; making them 70% lighter than traditional designs.

### INTERIOR INSTALLATION



Their compact design is a welcomed plus by our installers and they offer a wide selection of end connection and installation options. Visit [www.amesfirewater.com](http://www.amesfirewater.com) for additional information.

**Spears FlameGuard CPVC** features the TorqueSafe Gasket Sealed Head Adapter. It requires NO thread sealants; prevents over tightening; eliminates stress and provides easy frame alignment. The Spears revolutionary design features a special molded-in-place brass thread insert fitted with an elastomer gasket seal at the base of the threads. Pick up the phone and call Rick with questions on any Ames or Spears products or use the internet. The Spears website is [www.spearsmfg.com](http://www.spearsmfg.com).



**Apollo Valves** is fortunate to have **V.E. Sales (586) 774-7760** in St. Clair Shores as their rep agency. V.E. Sales is proud to have Cindy Zatto in their sales force. ASPE EMC is lucky to have Cindy as an active member. Cindy knows her backflow!

The V.E. Sales tabletop display featured Apollo Valves 4A and 4AN Series backflow preventers with cartridge design check assemblies for ease of removal and repair with no special tools.

Apollo 4A/4AN RPZ and Double Check assemblies are available with female NPT pipe threads or Apollo Xpress copper press ends in sizes 1/2" to 2". Larger sizes 2-1/2" to 12" are available with flanged or grooved-end valves.

### DC 4A SERIES



Sizes 2-1/2"-12"

**Apollo Valves** backflow preventers are proudly made in the U.S.A. at their Pageland, SC foundry. Please visit the Apollo Valves website at [www.apollovalves.com](http://www.apollovalves.com) or contact Cindy for additional information.

As the "Tabletop Champion" for February, I'm happy to report we already have three (3) sponsors ready to present their products. You can expect to see multiple medical gases and vacuum equipment manufacturers. The NFPA-99 2012 Medical Gas program on February 19th is drawing attendees from around our State. Make it a point to visit us and say hello to fellow ASPE W MI Chapter members. Some of them will be traveling from Grand Rapids. Most of them will be spending the night and attending the 8-hour Medical Gas Design Class sponsored by BeaconMedaes the following day. If they can make the effort to attend, you can too!

On March 19th, ASPE EMC and the ASHRAE Detroit Chapter will hold a joint meeting. This is currently scheduled to be held at the PITC in Troy. Early indications are pointing to another venue. More details to follow.

*Continued on page 9*

## Affiliate Liaison Report

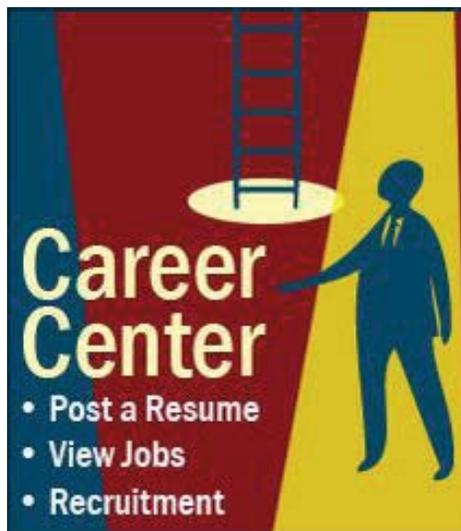
Continued from page 8

Please RSVP to [dann.holmes7@gmail.com](mailto:dann.holmes7@gmail.com) with your February and/or March plans. You can't get this level of training and information anywhere at the low cost we're bringing them to you. We're doing what we can to make S.E. Michigan the Plumbing & Mechanical Engineering educational hub of the country. Come join us and bring your ideas too.

Disclaimer – parts of my article are written by or found on the manufactures website, brochure or through their salesperson. Please contact the company listed above for further questions you may have on their products.

As always, I can be reached at [dann.holmes7@gmail.com](mailto:dann.holmes7@gmail.com) and/or (248) 939-2476.

Dann Holmes – Viega District Manager and ASPE Region 2 Affiliate Liaison

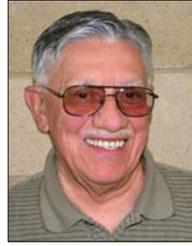


ASPE NATIONAL HAS A CAREER CENTER WHERE YOU CAN POST A RESUME, VIEW JOBS AND RECRUIT. GO TO FOR MORE INFO: <http://careers.aspe.org/>

*"Words may show a man's wit but actions his meaning." – Benjamin Franklin*

## VP Technical Report

Edwin Hawley, CPD



ASPE Eastern Michigan Chapter, Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at the Plumbing Industry Training Center 1911 Ring Road Drive, Troy, Michigan.

The evening program was called, "Cross Connection Education Day" for the **Fire Sprinkler System Retro Fit** Presented by: Gunner P. Collins of:

**Collins Backflow Specialists** with Information Supplied from: James R. Schifiliti, of **Fire Safety Consultants**. The subject covers Backflow Preventers for Fire Sprinkler Systems, design and the installation requiring backflow prevention devices including detector checks, and proper fire pump sizing and valving to allow periotic testing and maintenance of fire system.

Gunner Collins, possesses the Illinois State Plumbing License (he says, I do not carry an Engineer's degree), and has carried the active Inspectors License for the last 20 years and has worked in the family owned business for over 21 years. He is a holder of the ASSE Certification for the Cross Connection Control Survey as well.

Gunner is very proficient in the Advanced 3D Auto Cad design and drawings. He now teaches an advanced cross connection course, being approved as a State of Illinois continuing education instructor.

Gunner has gained experiences and strong knowledge about the requirements of Fire Sprinklers and Life Saving Systems, specifically the installation of backflow devices in new and existing sprinkler systems by working with Fire Sprinkler Engineers over several decades.

After the introduction of Gunner, his response was, **"Hey folks did you hear it?----the applause?----hear it? -----nothing-----applause, applause-----Geezsss!!!**

My name is Gunner Collins, I have done an enormous amount of work in Fire Protection Sprinklers in the Chicago and the North East Illinois area. How I love that place!

We have some real problems between the Plumbers and the Fire Department Inspectors. I have a sign in my office that says; "Trying to work with the Inspectors is like dealing with a pig in a mud puddle." The question is, "Can't we just try to get along?"

First of all, the work on the Backflow Preventers is the plumbers work, not sprinkler people or other inexperienced plumbers. Why? Because, sprinklers are connected to the drinking water systems. My plumbing colleagues have a very different attitude towards installing backflow preventers. It's just installing a valve no big deal, what about the other piping systems? Oh, it's not their problem. I wonder sometimes how I can sleep at night, when someone is working on my potable-water drinking system.

Continued on page 10

# VP Technical Report

Continued from page 9

The City of Chicago's potable-water system has only about 30 PSIG, mainly due to the antiquated piping system, which means that every buildings potable-water system has to have a booster pump delivery system.

Gunner gets a call, "Come and check my water, it has a kind of a grayish color to it." I get there, take one look, and think should I run for the nearest exit. How long it has been this way? Have you called the City Water Department?

City Water Department's answer, it's not their problem! Have you checked with your neighbors? No! Has anyone done any plumbing work? No! We'll, oh yes, about 3 to 4 months ago, they ran a fire protection test. Can you give a quick estimate to fix this? Also, we have been getting a number of false fire alarms. Gunner gives the estimate of \$18,000. "Oh my!" "Hey, you wanted a quick estimate, you got it."

What this illustrates is how little the building managers and /or owners know about their water systems, or the general public.

With a number of sub-connections to the potable-water system there could be a glycol mixed water for the cooling towers that also expands, requiring additional and necessary check valves, applied to protect their interconnection to other services.

There should not be any work done, unless all calculations and studies of the existing systems are first made. Adding alot of pictures, I work closely with Mr. Schifiliti to put a package together and that included all of the following.

## Let's take a look at our goals

**Plumbing:** Protection of Potable Water

**Fire Sprinkler:** Protection of Human Life

## THINGS TO LOOK AT FOR A RETRO FIT

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Piping System</b><br/>Pipe Schedule<br/>Hydraulically calculated</li><li>• <b>Service</b><br/>Size<br/>Location</li><li>• <b>Risers</b><br/>How many<br/>Size</li><li>• <b>Floor Drains</b><br/>Locations (if any)</li><li>• <b>Hydrant Flows</b><br/>GPM<br/>Residual Pressure<br/>Pilot Reading<br/>Size of opening</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Detector Check</b><br/>Type<br/>Size</li><li>• <b>Valves</b><br/>Type<br/>Size</li><li>• <b>Pump</b><br/>Inlet &amp; Outlet Size<br/>GPM<br/>Pump Test Data</li><li>• <b>Any Sprinkler Information</b></li><li>• <b>Piping System</b><br/>Potable<br/>Non-Potable</li><li>• <b>Room</b><br/>Height<br/>Distance off the wall<br/>Clearance</li></ul> |
|--|---|

## THINGS NEEDED TO BE SUPPLIED FOR FIRE DRAWINGS

- Detailed Shop Drawings
- Backflow specifications
- ASSE Approval sheet
- Backflow flow curves
- Pump Data
- Hydraulic calculations
- Hydrant Flows
- Any Sprinkler design information

**Showed three CAD drawings samples, with detailed type of Backflow Preventers installations**

## Backflow and Backsiphonage

Backflow refers to reversed flow caused by backpressure or backsiphonage. Backsiphonage occurs when the supply pressure drops below atmospheric pressure, thus, creating a vacuum. Backpressure occurs when the supply drops below the residual pressure in the downstream piping. Either of these conditions can result in backflow. When cross-connections exit, backflow can result in pollution or contamination of the water supply.

Backflow due to backpressure---Any interconnected piping systems, in which the pressure of one system exceeds the pressure of another system, may result in backflow due to the pressure differential between the two systems. Backflow will occur from the zone of lower pressure. Backflow is of concern in buildings where two or more piping systems are maintained and where contamination, or pollution from one to the other, is unacceptable.

The potable-water, supply-piping system is usually under pressure directly from the city water main. Occasionally, a booster pump is used to increase pressure as required. A second piping system, which is connected to the potable water supply, may be pressurized by a centrifugal pump.

The pressure of the second system can exceed the pressure potable water supply system, causing a reversal in the differential pressure (back pressure). In addition, reversal can occur because of gas or steam pressure from a boiler, or when pressure in the potable system drops to a lower pressure than the second system pressure.

The most positive method of avoiding backflow is the complete separation of the potable water system and a second system; this is called an air gap. Another method involves the installation of mechanical devices. All methods require routine inspection and maintenance.

Backflow due to backsiphoning---is explained using a tub and the supply piping. If the supply valve is closed, the pressure at the auxiliary faucet is less than the pressure at the tub faucet. Flow occurs, therefore, through siphonage from the bath tub to the open auxiliary faucet. The siphon action cited would be produced by the reduced pressure resulting from a difference

Continued on page 11

## VP Technical Report

Continued from page 10

in the water levels at two vertically separated points within a continuous fluid system.

**Backsiphonage due to constriction**---One of the principles of fluid mechanics is the principal of conservation of energy. As water flows through a constriction such as a converging section of pipe, the velocity of the water increases, reducing pressure. Under such conditions, a vacuum may be developed in a pipe. The simple aspirator is based upon this principle. If this point of reduced pressure is linked to a source of pollution, backsiphonage of the pollutant can occur.

**Backflow due to under sized suction-pump piping**---One of the common occurrences of dynamically reduced pipe pressure is found on the suction side of the pump. In to the one showing many cases similar to one having the line supplying the booster pump is under sized or does not have sufficient pressure to deliver water at the rate of flow in the pipe may be increased, causing a further reduction in pressure at the pump intake rate which the pump normally operates. The rate of flow in the pipe may be increased, causing a further reducing in pressure at the pump intake, which often results in the creation of a vacuum at the pump intake. This vacuum may become low enough in some cases to cause vaporization of the water in the line. In this particular stage the flow from the source of pollution would occur when pressure on the suction side of the pump is less than the pressure at the pollution source.

The preceding discussions have described some of the means by which vacuums and the reversal of flow is caused by an inadvertent reversal of differential pressure.

When this occurs, backsiphonage backflow or backpressure backflow will result.

**Devices for Preventing Backflow and backsiphonage**

Air gaps, atmospheric-vacuum breakers, double-check valves, pressure-vacuum breakers, double-check detector checks and reduced-pressure-principle-backflow preventers are mentioned and discussed here as devices for preventing backflow and backsiphonage.

Air gaps used primarily at the end-of-the line services

Atmospheric-vacuum breakers, (AVBs) not to be used for back pressure conditions.

Double-Check valve assembly may be used under

Continuous pressure and protect against both backsiphonage and backpressure conditions.

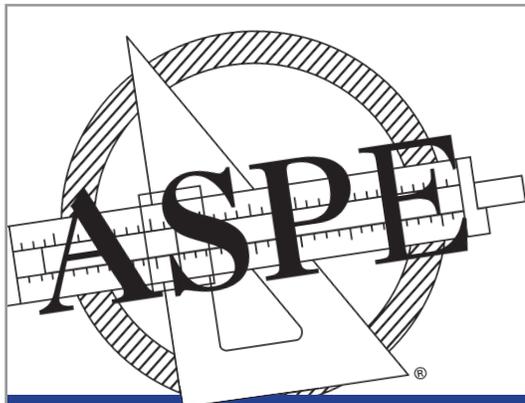
**Note:** To view a diagram refer to the 1995 MCAA Publication titled *Reduce Pressure Principle Backflow Preventor* - page 1-95.

Gunner Collins did a super job with a very strong delivery.

I enjoyed it very much and I hope did too! He represents a good and very direct individual who works in the field and construction, who can teach the real lessons of life.

Hope to see you all at the February 19, 2013 for another great show.

Edwin Hawley, CPD, VP Tech



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Bob Frey of Jones & Henry Engineers Toledo Ohio office examines Apollo Valves Series 4W Spill Proof Vacuum Breaker with the ASSE 1056 Seal



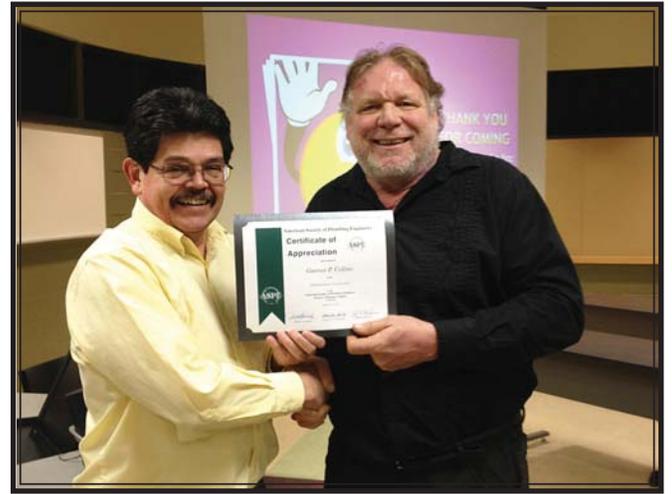
Rick Johnston of Watson Associates representing Watts backflow products and life member of ASPE Ed Hawley of ELH Engineering.



VE Sales Company representatives Tom VanEgmond, Cindy Zatto and Steve VanRaemdonck, sponsor of Apollo Valves backflow preventor products table top display.



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Chapter President, Joe Hernandez, CPD, presents certificate to speaker Gunnar Collins of Collins Backflow Specialists' in Illinois



Chef Ginny and her assistant.



Barry Pines of C&R Plumbing at front of dinner line (again).



Amanda Belcher, ASPE EMC VP of Membership of EAM Engineers and Pam Hartsell, ASPE EMC Treasurer of Strategic Energy Solutions, working meeting sign-in table.

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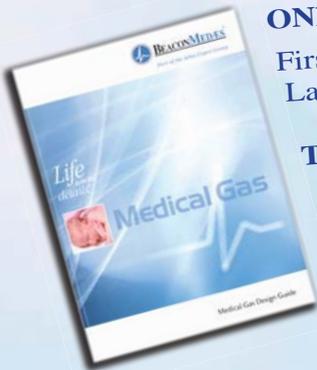
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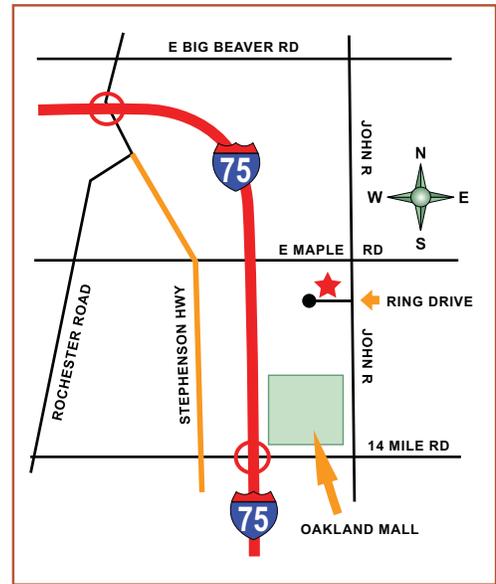
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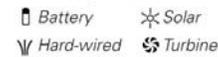
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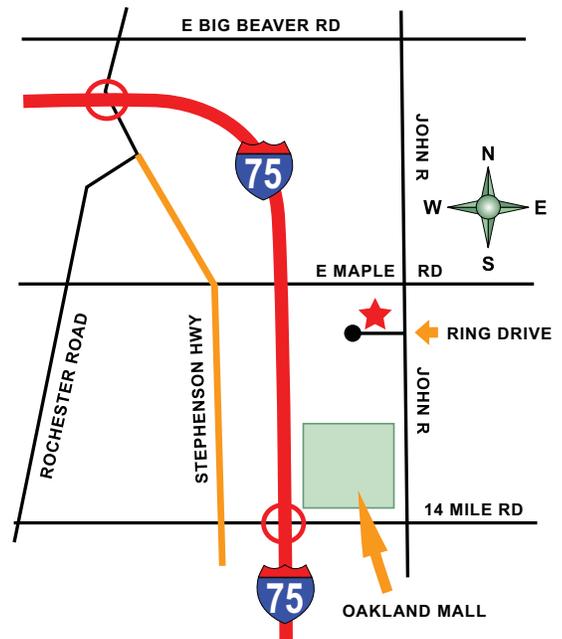
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