

# ASPEnewsletter

Southwestern Ohio Chapter

September 2011      Volume 30 Issue 2

Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
PLUMBING ENGINEERS  
SOUTHWESTERN OHIO CHAPTER**

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## ASPE September Meeting

**Date:**            **TUESDAY, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Location:**      **Cincinnati Master Plumbers Association Training Facility.** 11020 Southland Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, Phone 513.742.2672. From I-275 take SR 4 south to Northland (1/2 mile); turn right on Northland to Southland (1/2 mile); turn left on Southland to CMPA Training Facility (1/4 mile). Plumbing Products Show. Demonstrations, information, food, & drinks.

## FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Sept 13, 2011      Product Information Show @ Cincinnati Master Plumbers

Oct 27-30, 2011    Technical Symposium @ Orlando, Florida

**All meetings held in Middletown unless noted otherwise**

Below please find some *tentative* meeting/ tour ideas. Please provide input if you have any other ideas that you'd like us to consider. The meeting schedule will be finished for the September Newsletter.

- Christian Moerlein Brewery Tour -Dinner Meeting
- Greensource Building Tour -Showcase Green Office in Cincy
- CWW- Fairfield Tour
- Newport Aquarium
- BIM Modeling, Engineering, Coordination to End User
- Vectren Energy-Gas Conservation-Kirk Barret –Middletown
- PreFab Pods & Rack Systems by TP Mechanical w/Tour of TP Mechanical's Fabrication Facility and Mercy Hospital West (under Construction)

## From The President...

I hope everyone has had a great summer. I'm looking forward to the fall and seeing all of you at our September joint meeting with Cincinnati Master Plumbers Association.

At our August SWO ASPE board meeting we discussed increasing our chapter's membership as the main focus for the upcoming year. We've had a drop in enrollment of roughly 15-20% over the past few years and our goal is to return to the 80 member level. We're also very interested in raising the number of CPDs. If you're interested in becoming CPD over the coming year, let us know so that we can help you with any information/ meetings or classes to help you achieve this. Achieving the rank of CPD affirms a plumbing designer's commitment to their profession and indicates a level of professionalism with substantial experience and knowledge. It essentially says to perspective Engineering firms and Mechanical contractors, "Qualified, top-shelf plumbing designer"!

We're planning some great meetings and tours for this year. These will include a tour (and meeting/dinner) of the new Christian Moerlein Lager House Brewery & Restaurant in March or April, depending on if they are able to open in February, when planned.



## HELP NEEDED:

- **SWO ASPE Chapter Photographer.** Someone who we can rely on to attend the majority of our meetings/ tours who enjoys photography and can provide our Newsletter editor with digital pics.
- **CADD/BIM Committee chairperson.** We're looking for a chairman to run a committee that will be crucial to educating our chapter on the future of CADD & BIM in Plumbing Engineering. This person will be someone who is well-versed in 3-D CADD including BIM. This committee will work to develop a class or two for the year on understanding the requirements for 3-D projects and how BIM is becoming a necessary part of what we do. The group that's developed will have members from the engineering and contracting sides of the plumbing business. They will also help lead the way for our chapter into the fourth-D, scheduling.
- **Information on local code officials.** Ron Bartley is diligently working on updating our Southwest Ohio Chapter Handbook and having a good list of local code officials and utility personelle is critical to its success. *All substantial contributors will be acknowledged in the handbook. Please send all information to [rbartley@klhengrs.com](mailto:rbartley@klhengrs.com).*
- **Chairperson to help with finding new locations for our meetings.** We're looking for someone who is familiar with the area between Dayton & Cincinnati. Our goal is to find better alternatives to the fairly expensive hotel meeting spot we've been using. One possibility would be to take advantage of meeting rooms at engineering firms, or code official/ contractor's offices and have catered box lunches.

- Brandt Junker, CPD

## Technical jargon...

- The State Architect's Office has released a guidance document for the implementation of Building Information Modeling (BIM; please forgive the vile content) techniques and systems on capital improvement projects.

According to the National Institute of Building Sciences, BIM is defined as a digital representation of physical and functional characteristics of a facility. A BIM is a shared knowledge resource for information about a facility forming a reliable basis for decisions during its life-cycle; defined as existing from earliest conception to demolition.

The State of Ohio BIM Protocol is designed to serve as a guide for consistent model development and management across state agencies and institutions of higher education, assisting owners that may or may not have their own BIM standards in place and wish to have projects completed through BIM implementation.

The State of Ohio BIM Protocol is a living document and will continually be reviewed for applicability with current methods and technology. To download the BIM Protocol, go to the SAO website at <http://ohio.gov/sao> (click on BIM Protocol).

For more information or to make comments about the State of Ohio BIM Protocol, contact SAO Capital Planning Manager William Ramsey at 614.995.3719 or via e-mail at [william.ramsey@das.state.oh.us](mailto:william.ramsey@das.state.oh.us).

- *Casper the Friendly Ghostwriter*

## From The VP Membership...

Hello to all ASPE Southwest Ohio members. I'd like to introduce myself to you as your new Vice President of Membership. My name is Ron Cobb and I am a mechanical engineer specializing in plumbing and fire protection systems working for SHP Leading Design in Cincinnati. I have been an ASPE member since 2007 and I will be reporting monthly on our membership status.

I'd like to recognize our newest members who came onboard earlier this year. They are Jack Rahn, Plumbing Division Manager with Feldkamp Enterprises and Forest Hampton a Product Stewardship Manager with the Oatey Company.

Total membership for this chapter stands at 64 which includes 43 Full, 4 Associate, 10 Affiliate and 7 Special members.

**REMINDER:** ASPE has a program, the compensation waiver, which is designed to help a member retain their membership and help with the dues if necessary. You can find information about this program at [www.ASPE.org](http://www.ASPE.org), or feel free to call me (513-381-2112) or e-mail at: [rcobb@shp.com](mailto:rcobb@shp.com).

- *Ron Cobb, PE, CPD*



## Legislatively speaking...

Hello, everyone; a new Chapter year is about to commence. I hope you were able to get plenty of rest and recreation during our (mostly) blisteringly hot and dry summer. You'll need it as it is time to delve into matters legislative with the VPL column, starting with...

- In a story published by the *Dayton Daily News*, insufficient heating of the (domestic) hot-water system in Miami Valley Hospital's new 12-story addition was the primary reason for **the largest outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in Ohio since 2004**, according to the hospital.

The outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at the hospital in February and March highlights an unintended result of plumbing codes that could put vulnerable populations like hospital patients at risk.

In certain cases, an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease can be an "unfortunate consequence of something that's intended to protect public health," said Dr. Lauri Hicks, a medical epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In an exclusive interview with the Dayton Daily News, hospital officials announced the cause of the outbreak, which sickened 11 patients and may have contributed to the death of one of those patients.

Prior to occupancy of the \$135 million patient tower on December 28, 2010, a construction team made sure the water that supplied showers and faucets was heated to no more than 120 degrees Fahrenheit, as required by the Ohio Plumbing Code, hospital officials said.

Hospital officials said they had planned to heat the water to 130 to 140 degrees, but were told to lower the water temperature to comply with code requirements, which are intended to prevent scalding.

“When the codes recommended a certain water temperature, those codes didn’t contemplate a vulnerable population” and its susceptibility to waterborne bacteria such as Legionella, said Jennifer Theibert, the hospital’s risk-management director. The acutely ill are more susceptible to contracting Legionnaires’ disease than the general population.

State (plumbing) codes like Ohio’s that require hospitals to keep water temperatures at 120 degrees are “irresponsible,” said Tim Keane, who was hired by Miami Valley Hospital after it detected its first cases of Legionnaires’ disease in late February.

“One of the primary drivers of Legionella in health care are the codes,” Keane said.

Such codes aim to minimize the risk of scalding by requiring caps on water temperatures. But Keane claims the risk of hot water systems becoming colonized with Legionella bacteria is far greater than those associated with scalding.

Legionella bacteria begin to die at 108 degrees Fahrenheit, according to the CDC. But not all of those bacteria die at that temperature, and water typically begins to cool as it moves away from the heating source, the CDC’s Hicks said. In large buildings, the temperature can drop as much as 10 to 20 degrees in some parts of the hot water plumbing system. Consequently, “bacteria may be thriving in the pipes near the shower head, but not in the (domestic) water heater itself,” Hicks said.

Miami Valley Hospital is now heating water in the entire hospital to 140 degrees, and has the ability to mix hot and cold water at faucets and other points where people come in contact with the water to reduce scalding risks.

The hospital also has installed a hyperchlorination system to “make sure this never happens to us again,” said Barbara Johnson, the hospital’s chief operating officer.

Reduced water flow in parts of the new addition’s plumbing system also contributed to the outbreak.

Legionella is found in most water sources, but it is usually contracted by breathing in mist from water that contains high concentrations of the bacteria. Legionnaires’ disease is not contagious.

The hospital spent about \$61,000 to eradicate Legionella from the hot water system. It declined to release both its report on the outbreak and a white paper summarizing what it’s learned.

The hospital has received inquiries about the outbreak from attorneys representing patients who had Legionnaires’ disease, but no legal action has been taken against the hospital, Theibert said.

- Governor John R. Kasich signed the State of Ohio budget for fiscal years 2012 and 2013 on June 30. Included in the budget were **some very significant changes in the method of project delivery for Ohio’s public construction projects.**

Public construction in Ohio accounts for nearly \$3 billion annually in state spending. These projects include everything from renovations to state government buildings to local school buildings through the Ohio School Facilities Commission to building and renovation projects on Ohio’s public university and college campuses. Construction in Ohio is a major economic driver and job creator and public construction is a significant share.

The state’s current multiple-prime project delivery model involves hiring separate contractors for general trades work, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling and sometimes fire protection. There is an option to use a construction manager to provide consulting services, but they are prohibited from holding contracts for the work.

Referred to as "Ohio Construction Reform," the new law provides the following contracting alternatives for public construction projects in Ohio:

- Retains Multiple-Prime Design-Bid-Build project delivery as the default method of construction, but adds other options;
- Removes limitations on Single-Prime Design-Bid-Build project delivery (General Contractor may be used at any dollar value);
- Allows Design-Build project delivery (single entity assumes risk for final design and construction of the facility including cost overruns);
- Allows Construction Manager (CM) at Risk project delivery (CM holds subcontracts and assumes risk for cost overruns);
- Enables selection of a Design-Build or CM at Risk firm through a Best Value Selection process (combination of qualifications and price);
- Allows public authorities to authorize Design-Build or CM at Risk firms to utilize Design Assist

Subcontractors (early engagement to facilitate coordination before construction begins);

- Enables Design-Build and CM at Risk firms to establish a Guaranteed Maximum Price when construction documents are at a sufficient level of detail (60-75 percent complete);
- Requires DAS to file rules for Best Value Selection process, forms of Contracts and Subcontracts, and standards for criteria that a Design-Build or CM at Risk firm may use to prequalify subcontractors;
- Requires DAS to file rules for bonding requirements for Design-Build and CM at Risk firms before Construction Reform provisions go into effect (earliest possible effective date is Dec. 15, 2011); and
- Allows the new project delivery methods to be used by state agencies, state institutions of higher education, counties, townships, municipal corporations, school districts, or other political subdivisions.

● In a recent decision, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that an employer's termination of an employee shortly after a work-related injury, but even *before* the employee has filed a workers' compensation claim, can be considered **retaliation in violation of public policy**. The impact of this decision is to cover Ohio's at-will employees with an additional cause-of-action against employers for 'workers' comp retaliation,' even before an injured employee has expressed an intent to file a claim or has already done so. So employers will now have to carefully consider whether to terminate or discipline an employee for circumstances involving a workplace injury. Employers will also need to consider whether the employee has claimed an injury or sought accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act as a means to block an employer from taking justifiable disciplinary action.

● At the recent IAPMO Plumbing Technical Committee meeting in St Louis, MO, **a number of comments that were submitted for action were given review.**

Among the action items that were rejected for inclusion in the next iteration of the Uniform Plumbing Code: air admittance valves and conservation (low-flow plumbing fixtures) measures.

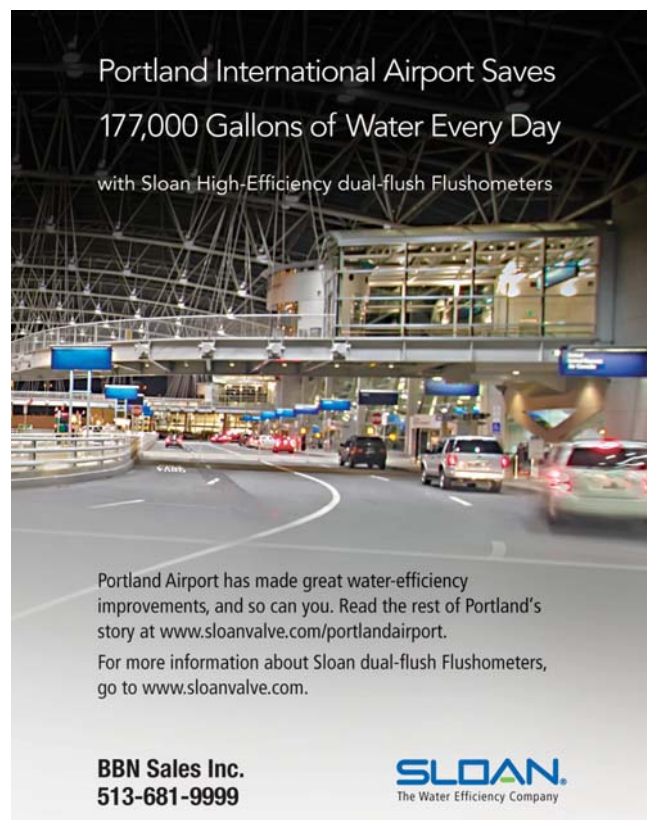
Items that received no recommendation from the committee: inclusion of specific industry standards and siphonic roof drainage systems.

Items that were approved by the committee: rewrites of piping joints and connections and nonpotable water.

● The plumbing provisions of the IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement

(GPMCS) are to be **included as an Appendix to the 2012 edition of the National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC)** as published by the Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors (PHCC) – National Association. With the inclusion of the GPMCS within the NSPC, the 2012 edition of the code will contain energy and water conservation measures, efficient domestic water heating design criteria and provisions covering the design, installation and maintenance of alternate water source systems (such as harvested rainwater, graywater and reclaimed water).

**-Ronald K Bartley, PE, CPD, CPI**



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## Through the pipes...

- The American Society of Plumbing Engineers is an approved provider and sponsor of continuing education units (CEUs) and professional development hours (PDHs) in all 50 states. Thus, every hour of continuing education that you earn at the 2011 Technical Symposium can be used to meet the continuing education requirements of your professional licenses and certifications, such as PE and CPD.

By attending the 2011 Technical Symposium and participating in five of the 30 exciting educational sessions, you can earn 15 hours of credit. That's 1.5 CEUs or 15 PDHs toward your recertification requirements!

The sessions will cover the hottest topics in the industry, so in addition to earning CEUs, you will be enhancing your knowledge of the most current design techniques and technologies such as:

- Building information modeling
- Rainwater harvesting
- Solar water heating
- On-site water reuse
- Water-conserving fixtures
- Siphonic roof drainage
- Clean agents for fire suppression

The sessions come in six educational tracks, so you can follow one curriculum—such as Sustainable Design or Fire and Life Safety—or mix and match sessions to create your own unique educational program.

The 2011 ASPE Technical Symposium is designed to help you customize and maximize your learning experience, as well as earn CEUs as evidence of your performance capabilities for job advancement. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to help further your career. **Register today at [www.ASPE.org](http://www.ASPE.org)!**

- The annual **SAO College** series of seminars will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on the following dates and locations:

- Thursday, Sept. 1 - The Conference Center at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
- Friday, Sept. 9 - Columbus State Community College - Center for Workforce Development

The agenda for this year's half-day conference includes the following courses:

- Energize Your Project: SAO College 2011 Energy Requirement 1.0 AIA learning units
- Contracts and Computers: Documents and OAKS Capital Improvements (OAKS CI) updates 1.5 AIA learning units

- Are We There Yet? Transforming Ohio Public Construction: BIM Protocol, Construction Reform 2.5 AIA learning units

Attendees will earn up to 5.0 continuing education credits which have been approved by the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Energize You Project is approved for Health, Safety and Welfare (HSW) and Sustainable Design (SD).

All attendees will receive a certificate of attendance for self-reporting continuing education credits to their respective professional organizations, such as the Ohio Architects Board and the Board of Landscape Architect Examiners and the Ohio Professional Engineers and Surveyors Board.

The cost for the half-day event is \$60 per person. Additional information about SAO College, including registration forms, payment information, cancellation policies, parking information and driving directions, is available at <http://ohio.gov/sao> (click on SAO College).

Any questions should be directed to SAO Program Services Coordinator Christina Ringley at 614.644.5016 or via e-mail at [christina.ringley@das.state.oh.us](mailto:christina.ringley@das.state.oh.us).

## Other voices...

John Gautrey is a partner and principal at IBE Consulting Engineers. In an interview published by *The Architect's Newspaper*, Sam Lubell sat down with Gautrey to discuss MEP, sustainability, and the future of construction.

**The Architect's Newspaper: You seem to be the architect's choice for MEP (mechanical, engineering, plumbing) on the west coast. How did you develop such a list of architects to collaborate with? What are you doing right?**

John Gautrey: I think some of it is historical. Alan [Locke, the company founder] and I have been in LA for 25 years. I was trained at Arup and learned that engineering is there to facilitate the architect's vision. We wanted to get back to those roots. We're there to help them in any way we can to achieve their architecture. It's not about imposing on it but helping shape it from an engineering perspective to make it better. You never get the perfect solution, but we can investigate it until we see that it will work. Anything is possible if you want to pay for it—not in terms of fees, but in terms of construction costs.

**With sustainability being such a priority, MEP has all of a sudden become sexy. What are some of the innovations in MEP that get you the most excited?**

The buzz seems to be about stacked devices, radiant systems, and chilled beams—things that are hydronic-based...not air based. The tradition has been to blow a lot of air at things, but to use water rather than air is a lot more efficient. You have less big things running around the building—big ducts and big fans. The challenge, as always, is that it's new. It's not usually a challenge with the architects, but the owners. Sometimes they're reticent to do something new. The responsibility is on us to explain the pros and cons. There are people out there that are prepared to take that leap. There are people out there who want to take the leap not to follow some proscribed system.

**What is the biggest mistake people are still making with regards to MEP? How can you change it?**

LEED—anybody can walk down a checklist and include this and that. But if it makes no sense for the building, does that make the building more sustainable? No. For us, sustainability is doing the right thing for the owner of the building and for the environment the building is in. Following a prescribed checklist doesn't necessarily lead to that. Still, LEED is fantastic in creating awareness about what sustainability is. It's phenomenal what the USGBC has accomplished. When I talked about sustainability ten or twelve years ago, people were laughing me out of the room.

**How do you see things changing in MEP in the next few years?**

The rest of the world is getting rid of air conditioning completely. Just open the window. Wear a t-shirt. You have the ability to control your own environment. You get used to it. I never had air conditioning in a building until I moved to the US. Ultimately, I don't think you'll have a choice.

**What are the future alternative energy sources?**

You need to implement the right systems for the right locale and not just force something on it. Geothermal, while great, is a difficult one because it's very climate driven. And there's an assumption that PV panels are great, but I think a lot of people implement them just to say "I'm green." I don't think you should look at sustainability like that. Is it right for the building? Is it sustainable to put materials into a building even if they don't achieve anything?

Solar hot water is underutilized. It's 100 percent efficient. PV, on the other hand, is 14 percent efficient. We're going to realize that we've got to invest in making PVs better, and they're going to get better all the time. Wind is great in the right location. We're looking at wind power for High School 15 in Los Angeles with CO Architects. It's a perfect site for wind in San Pedro. It's got a constant nine mile per

hour wind. You need a big site as well because of safety concerns.

**What about self-generation?**

Carbon neutrality is the next thing we're all going to get into. That comes down to regulation, which is very hard to change. So initially it's going to have to be building by building. To make any building energy efficient, you need to start with the building form. If you're not prepared to do that, you're not going to make an energy efficient building.

**Let's talk more about that. How can engineering change architecture?**

We can all throw energy at a building to make it more efficient. But to maximize it, the form and materials and site have to be taken into account. Then you look at your systems. Lighting, mechanical, how the building works, how you layer the building. Can you organize your building to allow the transitory spaces, which you're not in for very long, to be at the perimeter? Can you create buffer zones? You can start letting the internal layout inform your energy in the building. With the Morphosis Federal building in San Francisco [IBE did the feasibility study], the air conditioning is in the middle and the outside is naturally ventilated. The ventilation informs the design of the building.

**What is the biggest mistake architects make?**

Not involving us early enough. By the time we're involved it's too late to inform how the building is going to be set up. By the time you've got an architectural concept and the others have signed off on the site, there's not a lot you can do. Maybe you can add some shading devices. But if we had been there earlier we could say you should have turned it like this or we could get more daylight inside the building. We like to be there on day one. I think most of the architects we work with appreciate that.

**Is there sometimes tension between you and your architects?**

Sometimes you can't avoid it. You just need to be willing to be involved and be available to discuss issues. If you communicate bad news it keeps things smooth. Communication is king.

**Parting thought...**

***In Cleveland, there is legislation moving forward to ban people from wearing pants that fit too low. However, there is lots of opposition from the plumbers' union!***

**-Conan O'Brien**

▶ **What do the Beach Boys, Mickey Mouse, and T&S low-lead faucets have in common?**



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**Southwestern Ohio Chapter-ASPE  
20101-2012 Chapter Meeting Meal Assessment Form**

For the 2011-2012 Chapter year, the Board of Directors has established the following individual and corporate meal assessment rates for all regular Chapter meetings:

- \$140 Individual Meal Assessment**
- \$160 Corporate Meal Assessment** (can be used by more than one individual during the 2011-2012 Chapter year)

**Please indicate your meal assessment choice, include your check (payable to the Southwestern Ohio Chapter-ASPE and marked “Meal Assessment”) and complete the following:**

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**September/October 2011**

| Sunday | Monday         | Tuesday                       | Wednesday | Thursday               | Friday                                       | Saturday        |
|--------|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 4      | 5<br>Labor Day | 6                             | 7         | 8                      | 9<br>Get ready for<br>a new<br>Chapter year! | 10              |
| 11     | 12             | 13<br>CMPA<br>Product<br>Show | 14        | 15                     | 16   | 17              |
| 18     | 19             | 20                            | 21        | 22                     | 23<br>Autumn<br>begins                       | 24              |
| 25     | 26             | 27                            | 28        | 29<br>Rosh<br>Hashanah | 30   | 1               |
| 2      | 3              | 4                             | 5         | 6                      | 7  | 8<br>Yom Kippur |

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