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From the President’s Pen



Mitch Clemente, CPD, FASPE
2016–2018 ASPE President
aspepres@aspe.org

Happy New Year! It is a new beginning as we start the 2017–2018 ASPE fiscal year. Last month I touched on the Chapter elections and the importance of being a leader. Chapter Board positions are very important roles that we ask our volunteer members to take on, and we know that they can be quite daunting, especially in the first term of office. This is exactly why we created the Chapter Officer training videos, which are posted on the Chapter Officers Resource Page on ASPE’s website (aspe.org/ChapterOfficers). These short tutorials give elected Officers an introduction into their new position and what they should be focusing on in the next year. Viewing the training videos is also required to be eligible for the Award of Merit. The goal is to have Chapter Officers take a few minutes to watch the training video for their elected position and kick off the year on their way to attaining the Award of Merit, which will be presented at the Convention next year.

One of the documents that was provided to Region Meeting attendees was a presentation on the role of a Chapter Board Officer. Now that we have many new Chapter Officers, we thought it was important to touch on a few highlights of their roles that everyone may not have considered. First off, a Board member is a volunteer, but they have volunteered to do work. That work involves developing plans and accomplishing goals as a team. The primary goals are to help make the Chapter and the Society successful and to do what’s best for their members. As I have said before, our Chapter Officers play a very important and valuable role, and we depend heavily on them every day. I would like to thank every Chapter Officer for volunteering to help lead this Society; we are very grateful for your efforts.

The Society Board of Directors has a call every month to talk about the latest issues that are affecting our organization. We also get updates on the monthly Region conference calls with the Chapters. The Region calls have been taking place for some time now and are still very beneficial. A lot of information is being shared between the Chapters and the Region Directors, so I would encourage every Chapter to participate in these short monthly calls. The Chapters’ input is very valuable, and we are doing our best to answer their questions and meet their needs. Thanks go to those Chapter Presidents who have participated in the past, and I ask that all 2017–2018 Presidents participate in the next conference call. If you are not sure when the next call is taking place, please contact your Region Director.

The Professional Engineer Working Group (PEWG) continues striving toward the acceptance of a plumbing option within the Mechanical Engineering PE exam thanks to the help of our licensed members. Just recently, ASPE members in Minnesota and Virginia agreed to help by contacting their respective state licensing boards. These members, along with their peers in Georgia, New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and California, are also working to get state board approval. If your state is mentioned above, please don’t sit back and think that we are covered. We still need your help. The more licensed members who contact their state board about this initiative, the better our chances are to accomplish the goal. Ohio and Arizona are already on board, but we need at least eight more states to understand that a plumbing option is essential to improving the safety and well-being of the public. If you would like more information on this initiative and want to get involved, please let me know.

This year we have planned a few new twists for the Technical Symposium that will be held in Montreal in October. There will be extended exhibition hours, and the show will take place over two days, giving attendees more time to visit with the exhibitors. We are also offering a three-hour tour of the Jean R. Marcotte Wastewater Treatment Plant and a full-day workshop that will focus on intermediate plumbing design. On Saturday

evening we are holding a party at the Grevin Wax Museum for all registered attendees. We will also be hosting an AYP Leadership Academy, and the theme is “What They Didn’t Teach You in College.” This should be a very educational session for our young professionals. More details on these events can be found at 2017tech.aspe.org.

At times I hear about someone who is thinking about stepping down from a volunteer position. The many different reasons given why they want to step down range from losing interest to being too busy and not having enough time. I recently read a comment that said if you are thinking about quitting, remember why you joined in the first place. This was a very interesting point of view since most people volunteer because they want to be involved and support a worthy cause. Yes, sometimes we may get a little frustrated or lose interest in an initiative, but before deciding to step down, think about the reasons why you initially decided to volunteer in the first place. Chances are you offered a lending hand where help was needed and felt that you could make a difference. ASPE, as with every other volunteer organization, needs people who are willing to give a little of their time, because without these individuals we could not exist. If you are thinking about quitting anything, think about why you volunteered in the first place. Hopefully the experience was rewarding, and you will consider jumping over the hurdle in front of you and continuing in your current role. If you are still thinking about leaving, try a different volunteer position. A little change may be all you need to reinvigorate the passion for why you initially volunteered.

'17 CPDT Exam

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Registration closes September 15

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October 5 & 6, 2017

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DESIGN TECHNICIAN

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Congratulations New CPDs!

ASPE is pleased to welcome the following individuals to our impressive group of those who have earned the Certified in Plumbing Design designation: Torvald Adolphson, CPD; Stephen Akian, CPD; Ahmed Ali, CPD; Ahmed Belal, CPD; Robert Bernstein, CPD; Marianne Bjonnes, CPD; John Blair, CPD; Donald Bledsoe, CPD; Kevin Brill, CPD; Jeremy Busch, CPD; Byron Camargo, CPD; Claire Chamberlain, CPD; Martin Cleworth, CPD, EIT; Terry Collins, CPD; Brian Croshal, PE, CPD, LEED AP; Jose DeHoyos, CPD; Brian Determan, PE, CPD, LEED AP; Sean Duffy, PE, CPD; Ronald Dutan, CPD; Eugene Eidenzon, CPD; Vincent Favale, CPD, EIT, LEED AP BD+C; Gary Foran, PE, CPD; Anthony Furst, CPD, LEED AP; Jennifer Garlet, CPD; Jacob Garner, CPD; Stephanie Ginter, CPD; Amy Hadlow, PE, CPD; Richard Harlan, CPD; Jonathan Hillman, PE, CPD; Edward Hogue, CPD; Bryan Hutton, CPD; Kareem Ibrahim, CPD; Jeffrey Jennings, CPD; Andres Jimenez, CPD, CFPS; Glenn Jones, CPD; Robert Klein, CPD; Jeffrey Kling, PE, CPD, LEED AP; John Kluber, PE, CPD; Matthew Kovarek, CPD; Derek Main, CPD; Alberto Malats, PE, CPD, LEED AP; Jared Marble, CPD; Kristian Merritt, CPD; Aleksandar Milenkov, PE, CPD; Reynaldo Miller, CPD, EIT; Michael Morder, PE, CPD; Salvatore Rachiele, CPD; Christine Ray, CPD; Robb Risani, CPD; Karen Schulte, PE, CPD; Travis Smith, CPD; Stephen Soltis, CPD; Brian Soskey, PE, CPD; Michael Stiles, CPD; Brandon Stolp, CPD; Gary Stroh, CPD; Zhong Sun, PE, CPD; Lucas Tabaczynski, CPD; Mike Tamagni, PE, CPD; Broc Thiele, CPD; Matthew Torres, CPD; Guillermo Triana, CPD; Frank Westhoff, PE, CPD; Michael White, CPD; David Williams, CPD; George Wu, CPD; and George Youssef, CPD.

A.O. Smith Joins ASPE's CEU Provider Program

As an official ASPE CEU Provider, A.O. Smith is able to offer ASPE continuing education units for the following professional development programs: Introduction to ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Codes, Commercial Gas Water Heater Technologies, and Improving Water Heater Longevity. To learn more about the program or to contact our providers, go to aspe.org/aspe-ceu-provider-program.

ASPE's Education Committee Publishes Its Newest Newsletter

The second-quarter 2017 Education Newsletter contains stories on mentoring, the Pittsburgh Chapter's involvement in Boy Scouts of America, and more. You can find it on our Educational Programs & Tools page (aspe.org/EducationalProgramsTools).

Get to Know ASPE's Board of Directors

As part of a new social media campaign, ASPE will be introducing members of the 2016–2018 Board of Directors on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn and compiling brief interviews with them online at aspe.org/meetBOD. Be sure to follow us regularly to see who is being highlighted.

From the Executive's Desk



William "Billy" Smith, FASPE
ASPE Executive Director/CEO
bsmith@aspe.org

Here's to wishing each of you had a wonderful Fourth of July, spending quality time with family and friends. We've been busy catching up with all things ASPE, especially after participating in very successful Region Meetings with our Society and Chapter Officers. Personally, I very much enjoyed sharing current information and assisting in discussions with all those in attendance at the Region 3 Meeting held in Greenville, South Carolina and hosted by the Greenville Chapter during the first weekend of June. It was quality time spent planning for our Society's and industry's futures. Our other Regions held their meetings in New York City (Region 1, hosted by the NYC Chapter), Detroit (Region 2, hosted by the Eastern Michigan Chapter), Salt Lake City (Region 4, hosted by the Intermountain Chapter), and Dallas (Region 5, hosted by the Dallas/Ft. Worth Chapter). At all meetings, attendees spent quality time planning for the future, and we are all looking forward to seeing, and further collaborating with, everyone later this year in Montreal on October 19–22 for the 2017 ASPE Technical Symposium.

As well, on May 24, ASPE (as one of the Chairs), participated in the Plumbing Industry Leadership Coalition (PILC) meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C. Thorough updates were given from PILC members as to current plumbing industry issues that may have arisen around the country and world since our last meeting in May 2016. PILC continues to serve an extremely important industry role, and the Coalition will continue to monitor all opportunities for which our collaborative efforts can provide solutions.

Our involvement within all industry plumbing events continues to increase, and relationships are being maintained accordingly as ASPE grows and will continue to do so. Additionally, by the time this column has arrived for your reading pleasure, I will have participated in the CSA Group Annual Conference, the ASME A112 Main Standards Committee meetings, and the CSA Standard Committee meetings, and I will have taken another quick trip to Chicago as our very dependable and eager Staff continues our preparations for the Technical Symposium. However, our focus isn't just on Montreal later this year; we are always looking well ahead and focusing on our 2018 Convention & Exposition to be held in Atlanta and future Symposiums and Conventions & Expositions, including the 2019 Technical Symposium in Pittsburgh and the 2020 Convention & Exposition in New Orleans. As you can see, we've got a lot planned and much more planning to

do. Speaking of future events, is your Chapter interested in hosting an ASPE Convention & Exposition or Technical Symposium? If so, please contact Stacey A. Kidd, our Director of Membership & Meetings, and she will begin the process of seeking additional information and detailing your interest.

A famous commercial conveys that the Energizer battery just keeps going and going. Similarly, that is what ASPE is doing, and we like it that way, always pursuing all things regarding the plumbing engineering/design profession and the betterment of humanity.

In the tradition of past columns, I would like to continue to give you reminders about the 2017 Technical Symposium, which is being held in Montreal on October 19–22. I hope you have already registered and will be joining your fellow ASPE members and industry professionals. Speaking of the Symposium, I would encourage each of you to visit the ASPE website and check out our Staff's most recent efforts in assisting me in providing a Symposium video, sharing some of the exciting events and sessions planned for your visit to Montreal. As an additional reminder, please don't forget that to cross the border you will need a passport if you don't already have one, and if you already have a passport, don't forget to update your passport if needed. Drawing from another reminder from my June column, I would like to again offer a reminder to go ahead and load the French translation app onto your smartphone. This app could be very helpful to you during your enjoyable time in Montreal.

As you can imagine, we would love to have every ASPE member attend the 2017 Technical Symposium. While I realize that not all members will be able to attend, I would love to be able to make the next best statement: that everyone who does attend is an ASPE member. So with that in mind, I would like to ask you the following:

"Oh, by the way, are you an ASPE member? If not, you can be."

We would love to have you on board! Simply visit our website at aspe.org to begin the process of becoming an ASPE member. If the website is not the best way for you to proceed and you would rather speak with someone, please call Stacey A. Kidd at 847-296-0002 for further assistance with the process of becoming an ASPE member. If you are an ASPE member, thanks for making that choice and being involved in the best plumbing engineering association in the world. Yes, I'm a little biased, but I'm also correct.

ASPE REPORT

Monthly News for ASPE Members

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New ASPE Members

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