

# ~~AFAANJ~~ SPEC-i-FIRE Fall 2007

Sorry for the delay in getting the SPEC-i-FIRE out, for that matter for none in some time. We lost Elaine our old editor and Bob Boyer's duties have expanded under GE and his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the AFAA National. We are still working to get everything back on track. Anyone want to publish a newsletter?

After losing Elaine, Maryann Tomko of Meadowlands Electronics has done a great job taking over as the AFAANJ Corresponding Secretary. Maryann can be reached by email at [mfse@optonline.net](mailto:mfse@optonline.net), by phone at (973) 472-3300 and fax (973) 472-3332. , our mailing address remains the same;

AFAANJ  
P. O. Box 4286  
195 Allwood Road  
Clifton, NJ 07012

## **Upcoming Meeting Info:**

**Our September meeting is this week:** it will be on the third Thursday as is our custom at the Holiday Inn in Carteret. For directions simply go to our website [www.afaanj.org](http://www.afaanj.org). Our speaker will be Ed Armm, SET who will be providing a presentation of the 2006 IBC changes with a focus on the changes pertaining to Fire Alarms. As you know the State of New Jersey recently embraced the 2006 IBC.

Please see the last page of this newsletter for the complete 2007 – 2008 calendar. There is speaker information for September and November, the 2008 dates are set, and however, speakers and topics are not. We actually hope for input from our membership in selecting topics for up-coming meetings.

**√ The Web For New Membership Fees + Discounts for AHJ's.**

## **President's Message**

As the newly elected president of the AFAANJ, I would first like to personally thank our outgoing president Vince Bianco for his many years of dedicated service to our organization. Vince and Fire Control Electrical Systems will be missed by the AFAANJ. I also wish to thank the members of the Board of Directors, without whom we would have no association.

As we move to the future, my primary focus will be on the continued growth for our State Association. It was my pleasure to represent the Association at the national meeting and receive the award for all of our board and general members. Being awarded State Association of the year at the 2007 AFAA National Meeting should prompt us all to want to continue to grow our association and be very proud. It is only with growth that we can continue our training efforts as well as provide pressure in Trenton. I commission all members of the AFAANJ to become partners and participants in our association. While I thank you all for your support in just being members, I ask you all to become more active in your support and contributions over the coming years. I am not talking about financial contributions, we need your time and energy, AFAANJ is forming committees, I am asking you all for a contribution of time and energy,

There is a general public out there that needs information and the education that can save them their loved ones from the threat and consequences of fire. There are technicians that need more training to allow them to perform their rolls in the industry in a more professional manner. We all have to earn CPD's in order to maintain our

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permits, licenses and or NICET Certifications. **The strength of any organization lies within its members and I ask for everyone's help in order to continue to move forward.**

**Your membership in this organization is a statement that you support our mission and that support is further extended by attending our general meetings.** We have plans for exciting new programs and speakers for the upcoming meetings. General meetings are designed to benefit everyone and your attendance can also earn you necessary Continuing Education Credits (CEU's). In addition, being a member of AFAANJ gives you the opportunity to network with other professionals in our industry. **Getting involved with your association is what matters and we welcome your energy and new ideas!**

Also, as a current member, we encourage you to bring a guest to a general meeting. Your guest will receive a complimentary dinner and hopefully see the benefits of joining the AFAANJ. Please remember that our policy defines a guest as a person from outside of your company. Also be reminded that your company membership entitles you to one free dinner per meeting and additional attendees are expected to cover the cost of their dinners.

Finally we are considering something new; prior to our dinner meetings we are hoping to have seminars for technicians. We will need your help, yes you our members have technicians that need training, would there be value to hold a one to four hour seminar prior to each of our four general meetings that will train your people and provide them with the CPD's they need?

In closing, feel free to contact me or any board member if you have a question, concern, or just wish to share an idea. I thank you all for your efforts and look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Sincerely,

Edward Armm, SET  
President AFAANJ

## AFAANJ Updates...



J. Robert Boyer past president of the AFAANJ and current Chairman of the Board of the National AFAA presented Ed Armm with the State Association of the Year Award at this years AFAA National Meeting. Ed represented New Jersey and proudly accepted the award in the name of all AFAANJ members.

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The AFAANJ is proud announce that we have our own website; [WWW.AFAANJ.Org](http://WWW.AFAANJ.Org) .

You will find information on our upcoming meeting and training schedules, as well as membership and contact information. You'll find useful links and lists, code updates too. The site is for our members so if you have news related to fire alarms and life safety and would like it posted let us know. For example; your company is making a presentation at a school during Fire Prevention Week. Keep an eye on our code update pages as they are updated frequently. Our home page provides links to just about any place on the WWW you would need relating to life safety. There is a member's list as well so people searching for a fire alarm company on the web can locate your.

## New Jersey Code Updates;

The New Jersey Edition of the 2006 IBC, IRC, IMC, IECC and IFGC are now **viewable online at;**

<http://www2.iccsafe.org/states/newjersey/>

The 2006 NJ Edition of these codes went into effect on February 20, 2007.

The 2000 NJ Editions of the IBC and IRC are set to expire on August 20, 2007.

The 2002 Edition of NFPA-72 is currently adopted by reference. The 1996 Edition expired on August 20, 2007

## **To all NJ Fire Alarm companies doing business in NJ:**

The AFAA has been providing training to our industry since 1953. This is before NICET or State imposed licensing requirements, prior to people being in fear of meeting CPD or CEU requirements. We are in an industry that is constantly under flux the equipment we use changes as do the codes that mandate how we go about our work changes.

The AFAANJ is active on both commissions in NJ, the Licensing for Fire Alarm, Security and Locksmiths as well as that for Fire Alarm and Fire Suppression Systems. We came out strongly against the latest licensing entry, Senate Bill S2176, known as "The State Fire Sprinkler Licensing Act of 2004" which would have caught many fire alarm companies that monitor sprinkler and special hazards systems by surprise.

The AFAANJ offers our members a great deal besides training; we provide a forum where installing companies, distributors and engineers meet every other month and break bread. We speak for our industry at meetings in Trenton, Newark and anywhere else we have to go to lobby against bills at the local and state level that threaten our businesses, be they licensing that prevents us from working to code changes that remove detection in favor of passive suppression.

Finally, \$200 of your membership fee goes to National who is doing the above on a National level.

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## 2007 Calendar (Remaining)

**September 20**

Board Meeting 4:30 General 6:00 PM our speaker will be Ed Armm, SET President AFAANJ who will have a presentation on the currently accepted 2006 edition of the IBC

**October 18**

Board of Directors Meeting 5:00

**November 15**

Board Meeting 4:30 General 6:00 PM Our speaker will be John Cholin, P.E. FSFPE and his topic will be the results of the recent duct smoke detection tests performed by NFPA's Fire Detection Institute

## 2008 Calendar (Tentative)

**January 17**

Board of Directors Meeting

**February 21**

**General Membership Meeting**

**March 20**

Board of Directors Meeting

**April 17**

Board of Directors Meeting

**May 15**

**General Membership Meeting**

**June 19**

Board of Directors Meeting

**August (TBD)**

Board of Directors Planning Meeting

**September 18**

**General Membership Meeting**

**October 16**

Board of Directors Meeting

**November 20**

**General Membership Meeting**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  
YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR CHAPTER!!**