



Texas Fire Alarm Association

Dedicated to Life Safety

15705 Racine Cove, Austin, Texas 78717

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June 1, 2001

Austin, Texas TFAA Meeting - June 6, 2001

Time for one of those great meetings in *Austin*, your Capital of Texas. And this will be no exception, we have a fantastic meeting with great speakers all lined up for you. Coffee and Danish at 9 am and meeting at 9:30 am. Don't be late for this or you will really be missing some good speakers and valuable information.

Don't forget Wayne D. Moore is our featured speaker. If you are in the Fire Alarm business, then I know you know who he is!! The NFPA Codes would not be the same without him.

Don't forget to take a peek at the exclusive Austin Moonlight Towers that surrounds our city. Lots of history here that I have told you before.

Wayne D. Moore, PE

Masters Degree in Fire Protection Engineering

Mr. Moore has over 30 years of practical experience in the fire detection system field and is currently Director of New England Operations for Hughes Associates, which is a fire protection research, consulting and engineering firm with headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland.



He is well known nationwide as Chairman of the National Fire Alarm Code Technical Correlating Committee, Chairman of the Fire Detection Institute and has served as a member of the NFPA Standards Council.

He has written numerous articles and is a Section Editor for the eighteenth edition of the NFPA *Fire Protection Handbook*, contributed to the NFPA *Fire Alarm Signaling Systems Handbook* and was Co-Editor of the 1996 and 1999 editions of the *National Fire Alarm Code Handbook*.

Mark Redlitz & the Board of Professional Engineers

Wouldn't we like to know what the board is up to? Well our faithful Professional Engineer from the State Fire Marshal's Office will be here to tell us. Mark Redlitz, PE from the SFMO will speak on the involvement of engineers in fire alarm and sprinkler design as it pertains to proposed policy changes by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and it's impact in changing the SFMO Fire Alarm Rules.

Fellows, this is history in the making, don't miss it. All of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers that will be attending the meeting with us June the 6th should be extremely interested in this information also. We know you fellows know fire alarm design and the codes, but you also know that, a lot of other Engineers that have not specialized in Fire Protection, do not do designing as well as they should. This has created many problems and gives the engineering profession a bad name in some cases.

Of course as members of the TFAA we believe that fire alarm designing should be done by a Fire Protection Engineer or a Licensed Fire Alarm Planning Superintendent as licensed by the State Fire Marshal's Office and who has passed his Level III Nicet examination in Fire Alarm Systems. This is a very strenuous exam and I can assure you a Level III designer knows fire alarm design from one end to the other. I am sure you know that NICET is sponsored and operated by the National Society of Professional Engineers.

So what better alliance could we have between Engineers and Level III Technicians than this high quality certification in the field of Fire Protection Engineering Technology. It is my desire as a Registered Professional Engineer to see more Engineers and Architects hiring and using Nicet Level III Technicians to do the fire alarm planning for them. Maybe I should mention again that I am the Grandfather of the State Fire Marshal finally making a place for a "Fire Alarm Planning Superintendent" when I was Chairman of the SFMO Fire Alarm Advisory Board. I saw the need for this over twenty years ago. Thank goodness it is in full effect today and thanks to Engineers like Mark Redlitz who recognized this need also and provided great backup. Jim Moore

Big Joint Meeting

TFAA and SFPE Associations for June 6, 2001 Austin Meeting

It's a pleasure and a compliment to have the Society of Fire Engineers (SFPE), the Austin/San Antonio chapter, want to have a joint meeting with TFAA. We hope our reputation has preceded us as a very professional active group of NICET level people, Engineers and Fire Protection professional.

Thanks to the SFPE group, we are honored to have Wayne D. Moore as our main speaker. It is a rare occasion to have this opportunity. See other articles to see his extensive credentials.

The SFPE Austin/San Antonio group is made up of Fire Protection Engineers from these area and meet on a regular basis with the same motives in mind as our association. That is education and to promote professional fire protection.

Jeffrey M. Shapiro, PE – President
International Code Consultants, Austin, Tx

John Cochrane, PE – Vice President
Cochrane & Associates, San Antonio

"A Nation at War – Battle of the Model Codes"

We are honored to have the President of International Code Consultants (ICC), Jeff Shapiro, as one of our speakers at this Austin meeting. This is a national consulting fire and life-safety engineering firm based in Austin, Texas. The firm's client list includes major international trade associations and corporations in the chemical, manufacturing, semiconductor and construction industries.

Mr. Shapiro, PE is also President of the Austin/San Antonio Society of Fire Protection Engineers that are having a joint meeting with the TFAA at the June 6th meeting. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society and numerous other Societies. While serving as chief executive of the International Fire Code Institute his role was administration of the Uniform Fire Code work. This is the fire code used in 25 states and by several agencies of the U S government. He was creator and executive editor of the Fire Code Journal magazine.

Mr. Shapiro is a recognized author with a number of articles published in nationally prominent magazines including Building Standards, Fire Code Journal, American Fire Journal, Fire Engineering and Fire Command. He is also a contributing author for the NFPA Fire Protection Handbook and NFPA Automatic Sprinkler Systems Handbook.

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New Web Site for TFAA

Take a look at: "faa.net" and see the new web site for our association. Site has been prepared by: J.J. Moore of JM Electronics. We invite your ideas and suggestions. Let us hear from you. Email info to: jj@jmee.com

Houston TFAA Meeting in February

The Houston meeting on February 21st was a great success as usual. Key speaker was Larry Neibauer, President of AFAA. Really an honor to have such a well versed experienced NFPA Code instructor for our speaker while he was in town. His operation provided 110 seminars in 27 states in year 2000. That is an average of two per week. About half of these are based on contracts with individual alarm companies. I'll bet he has lots of Air Sky Miles stacked up!!

We have Mark Redlitz, PE to thank for his excellent update on the State Fire Marshal office and activities in that area. He had a March meeting with the State Board of Engineers and hoped to present his case that FA planning is not engineering. The board has some concerns about what some engineers are putting on fire alarm plans and so do we. Mr. Redlitz mentioned that it is possible the Fire Alarm Advisory council might be started up again. A number of areas in the state fire alarm rules needs attention. Mark himself does plan reviews for cities in Texa3s on fire alarm and sprinkler systems.

Chester Jones, PE our Code Specialist and long time member presented some good pointers to watch for in the new 1999 NFPA-72. Especially note that Chapter 8 covers what was formerly Chapter 2. Chester also is doing great work with his local Bryan area Burglar/Fire Alarm Association. This is the type of effort that will help smaller companies become better code orientated, better competitors and provide better Life Safety Code service to the public. This is one of the purposes of our TFAA Association fellows. We should all be spending some time doing this.

TFAA Austin Meeting Itinerary for June 6, 2001

Location: Red Lion Hotel, I35N and Hwg 290, Austin, Texas

9:00am – 9:30am Coffee & Danish

9:30am - 10:00am TFAA Business Meeting and Introductions

10:00am- 10:15am SFPE Business Meeting (may be 5 min)

10:15am- 10:45am Jeff Shapiro "A Nation at War - Battle of the Model Codes President of International Code Consultants

10:45am- 12:15am Wayne D. Moore, PE - MS in Fire Protection Engineering Chairman of the National Fire Alarm Code Technical Committee

12:15am - 1:15pm Lunch

1:15pm - 1:45pm Mark Redlitz - Proposed policy changes by the Texas Board of Registered Professional Engineers and impact on SFMO Rules

1:45pm - 2:30pm Dr Scot Knight - Motivational Talk

2:30pm - 3:30pm Bob Kaczmarek - quizzes etc

New \$20.00 Charge for Lunch

Due to high cost of our Hotel Meetings the TFAA Board has decided it is necessary to start charging for the meeting lunches starting with the Austin meeting.

The charge will be a flat \$20.00. Actually the association is paying out approximately \$28.00 per person for the food and meeting room. We didn't want to raise dues as we would like to attract more members.



Therefore RSVP will be very important.