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Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society

AFFILIATE SOCIETIES COUNCIL
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
PLUMBING ENGINEERS
SOUTHWESTERN OHIO CHAPTER
5100 Springfield Street, Suite 100
Riverside, OH 45431
www.southwesternohioaspe.org

President
Andrew M Hemmelgarn, EI, CPD
KZF Design
andrew.hemmelgarn@kzf.com

Vice President, Technical
Samuel Church
Campbell Equipment Co.
samuelc@campbellequipment.com

Vice President, Legislative
Jeremy M. Williams, PE, LEED AP
BD+C
Heapy
JMWilliams@Heapy.com

Vice President, Membership
Brian Selander
StreamKey, Inc.
brian@streamkey.com

Treasurer
Christina B Elliott
BraHan, LLC
crissy@bra-han.com

Secretary/Affiliate Liaison
William B Berger
Kohler
bill.berger@kohler.com

Newsletter Editor
John H Fox
Midwest Spec
jfox@mwspec.com

Board of Governors Chair
Brian C Fraley, CPD, LEED AP
Danis
Brian.Fraley@Danis.com

Fundraising Chair
Andrew T Monnig, CPD
Heapy
atmonnig@heapy.com

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OPEN

JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING

Date: TUESDAY, January 16, 2024

NEW Location: Countryside YMCA
1699 Deerfield Rd
Lebanon, OH 45036
Tel 513.932.1424

Cost: \$15 at the door

Schedule: 11:30AM-1:30PM Value Engineering with
Charlotte Pipe

Reservations: Make a reservation and pay for the meeting
through the Chapter Website or email Bill Berger
at bill.berger@kohler.com or John Fox at
john.fox@lixil.com before noon on MONDAY,
January 15th, so that a head count can be
established. As always, guests are welcome.

All content displayed at ASPE meetings is copyrighted. No one may copy any part
of it without permission of the copyright owner. Violation of this rule can lead to
monetary damages.

LOOKING AHEAD

Chapter Meetings to be held at Countryside YMCA,
Lebanon, OH unless noted otherwise.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Topic. Rows include February 20, 2024 (Heat Pump Water Heaters), March 19, 2024 (Domestic Water Booster Pumps), April 16, 2024 (TBD), and May 21, 2024 (TBD).

The ASPE Newsletter is published by the Southwestern Ohio Chapter of the American Society
of Plumbing Engineers. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not
necessarily reflect the views of the Society, the Chapter or the Editor.

Presidential prose...



Happy New Year! 2024 brings a lot of ASPE excitement to the Great State of Ohio and we all get a front row seat to the action.

First this year, our Chapter will be hosting the Region 2 Presidents meeting in Dayton. This brings together over 10 different ASPE Chapters from 6 states and Canada. It's our chance to really showcase our area and extend hospitality to our fellow members.

Currently we are planning to host everyone at the UD Marriott and enjoying social time (and a Bluegrass band) at Carrillon Park Museum. We are seeking affiliate partnerships to advertise during the event and provide some swag-bag items. If you are looking for a slam dunk marketing opportunity please reach out to Brian Fraley or myself.

Secondly, the ASPE Convention & Expo will be in Columbus in October. This is ASPE's biannual event that brings together thousands of engineers and manufacturers. The last Expo featured over 250,000 square feet of event space, will products ranging the entirety of the plumbing industry. With such easy access to this event (you can drive home at the end of the day if you want) I hope to see great turnout from the Southwest Ohio Chapter.

I am also happy to announce that the **\$5,000 2024 Alfred Steele Scholarship** is open for application! This application is limited to ASPE members and their immediate family members who have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and are in or plan to attend an engineering

program at a college, university, or technical school. Please have any of your college-age family consider applying, your odds are significantly better than the Powerball.

Upcoming Events:

Next SWO Chapter meeting – Value Engineering with Charlotte Pipe – January 16, 2023

ASPE Convention & Expo 2024 – October 18-23, 2024 - Columbus, OH

– **Andrew Hemmelgarn**
President

The Southwestern Ohio Chapter would like to wish a

Happy Birthday

To the following members celebrating their birthday this month:

Bret Abner, Terry Cannon, Chris Carter, Doug Gregory, Jon Hall, David Hudson and the Late Jim Miller

And the Chapter would like to wish a

Happy Anniversary

to the following members commemorating their ASPE anniversary this month:

Tyler Crone, Daniel Daly, Crissy Elliott, Michael Hagan, Bill Hutchinson, Alexander Lukashevich, Oksana Lysenko, William McCamey, Michael Rahe, Steven Tate, David Texter and Matthew Wyles

Technically Speaking...



As we begin the new year, and reflect on the previous one, I am extra appreciative of the outstanding engineers in this field and their dedication to continual learning. Your talents and passion drive the job, and I am looking forward to all the fantastic things we will do together this year. With that said, our next opportunity comes via Charlotte Pipe's Cameron Baucom covering Value Engineering in construction. He will detail the numerous considerations as they relate to the cost and function of a commercial DWV piping system, basic material differences within cast iron and PVC DWV systems, as well as how they apply to different build-types. In addition, he will also provide an overview of the different installation methods and requirements for these materials and their relation to the many dynamics of an overall project cost. The bottom line: where and when to use each type of product and why. I hope to see you there!

Cheers,

Samuel

Other upcoming events:

February 20th – Heat Pump Water Heaters via Lochinvar

March 19th – Domestic Water Booster Pumps via QuantumFlo

– **Samuel Church**
VP, Technical

Legislative lingo...



New Ohio Codes effective Mar 2024

The Plumbing Code with Ohio Amendments are now showing up on ICC website here: [Ohio Building Codes - ICC Digital Codes \(iccsafe.org\)](https://www.iccsafe.org) The red text is added by Ohio to the 2021 IPC.

See below for a significant change to food waste disposers no longer allowed to go to grease interceptors.

2015 OPC

1003.3.2 Food waste disposers. Where food waste disposers connect to grease interceptors, a solids interceptor shall separate the discharge before connecting to the grease interceptor. Solids interceptors and grease interceptors shall be sized and rated for the discharge of the food waste disposers. Emulsifiers, chemicals, enzymes and bacteria shall not discharge into the food waste disposer.

2024 OPC

1003.3.2 Food waste disposers restriction. A food waste disposer **shall not** discharge to a grease interceptor.

– **Jeremy M. Williams PE, LEED AP BD+C**
VP, Technical

Cincinnati Office
 800 - 755 - 7732
 513 - 353 - 9191
 cinsales@mwspec.com



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Membership musings...



It is hard to believe that 2024 is here, hopefully you all are off to a great start and keeping a close eye on any goals that you have set for the new year.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone for our first meeting of 2024 tomorrow on Value Engineering with Charlotte Pipe at the Countryside YMCA in Lebanon.

Please join me in welcoming Bill Schnelle with KFI Engineers as our latest member, we hope to see you at our next meeting. Our membership is down slightly this month at 101 members with the passing of one of our lifetime members, Dave Hudson. We have 55 Full members, 16 Associate members, 27 Affiliate members, 2 Life members, and 1 Retired member.

INDIANAPOLIS OFFICE 3540 E. 38RD. ST. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46226 PHONE - (463) 777-3149 INQUOTES@BWSOUTH.COM WWW.BWSOUTH.COM	COLUMBUS OFFICE 4401 BOTTHERN CT MILLERSBURG, OH 43106 PHONE - (614) 876-2477 OHQUOTES@BWSOUTH.COM WWW.BWSOUTH.COM	CINCINNATI OFFICE 10869 READING RD. CINCINNATI, OH 45241 PHONE - (513) 733-4771 OHQUOTES@BWSOUTH.COM WWW.BWSOUTH.COM	CLEVELAND OFFICE 6111 CAREY DR. UNIT 2 & 3 VALLEY VIEW, OH 44125 PHONE - (330) 655-9220 OHQUOTES@BWSOUTH.COM WWW.BWSOUTH.COM	LOUISVILLE OFFICE 1702 CARGO CT LOUISVILLE, KY 40099 PHONE - (502) 803-4940 KYQUOTES@BWSOUTH.COM WWW.BWSOUTH.COM
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MANUFACTURERS' REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY PLUMBING AND SPECIALTY BUILDING PRODUCTS

Total Membership		
	Jan 23'	Jan 24'
Buffalo-Niagara	40	42
Central Indiana	112	122
Central Ohio	99	106
Cleveland	93	94
Eastern Michigan	101	102
Evansville	32	33
Johnstown	28	30
Kentucky Bluegrass	-	29
Pittsburgh	98	95
Rochester	57	77

Southwestern Ohio	118	101
Toronto	92	108
Western Michigan	76	91
Region 2 Total:	946	1030

Thanks,

– **Brian Selander**
VP, Membership

Through the pipes...



- **Save the Date!**

ASPE's next national event—the **2024 Convention & Expo**—will be held in **Columbus, OH** on October 18–23. The Convention & Expo is the only event specifically designed to enhance the career growth of plumbing professionals, featuring a technical education program and the largest plumbing product tradeshow in the country. Visit expo.aspe.org to start planning.

And with this year's Convention and Expo practically being in our backyard, you have **no** excuse for not attending. So start making your plans.



- **Showcase Your Expertise at the 2024 ASPE Convention & Expo** The Technical Education

Program at the 2024 ASPE Convention & Expo in Columbus, OH will feature 30+ sessions for plumbing engineers seeking to enhance their skills and increase their career opportunities. They are accepting presentation proposals through February 29 for 75-minute, nonproprietary sessions that address current industry trends and technologies. If you would like to submit a presentation for consideration, visit aspe.org/2024-presenter-application.



- **MedGas Workshop Registration Is Open**

This year, ASPE's popular in-person MedGas Workshop will be held four times across the United States, and registration is now open for all of them so you can choose the workshop that best fits your schedule and location.

For the third and fourth quarters of 2024, the in-person MedGas Workshop will be held on September 26–29 in [Grand Rapids, MI \(hosted by Bradford White\)](#) and November 7–10 in [Exton, PA \(hosted by MediTrac\)](#) (click on the links to register.).

ASPE's MedGas Workshop is perfect for anyone seeking to sit for the ASSE 6060 personal

certification exam. The workshop also provides the skills and knowledge needed for engineers who want to branch into medical gas system design.

The cost to take the workshop is \$2000 for ASPE members and \$2350 for nonmembers. Not an ASPE member? [Join today](#) to get the member price and save \$150, and you'll also be able to take advantage of all of ASPE's other member benefits.

[Visit ASPE Pipeline](#) for more information on the workshops and links to register.



● [Join the Industry's Elite This Year](#)

The 2024 CPD exam will be held via remote proctor on April 15–26, and registration is now open for eligible candidates on ASPE Education. The deadline to register is April 1, 2024. [Learn more>>](#)



● The six-day virtual **CPD Review Class** this March will teach you how to prepare to ace the Certified in Plumbing Design exam, either this year or in the future. The workshop includes a CPD practice test (a \$50 member value), which students will take prior to the last day and then go over the results with the instructor, Michael Danielson, CPD, GPD. [Learn more>>](#)



● **ASPE's Book of the Month** program continues with

the [ARCSA/ASPE/ANSI 63-2020: Rainwater Catchment Systems](#) (eBook version).

Through January 31, 2024, you can get an early start on your holiday shopping by purchasing the digital edition for 25% off the regular member price.

Just enter the coupon code **hello2024** when you check out.

The discount is only valid on the digital version of the publication, and the coupon code can only be used once. If you are purchasing multiple items, the discount will be applied only to the assigned publication.

Don't forget to enter the coupon code when you check out to receive the discount.



● [Time is Running Out to Apply for the Alfred Steele Scholarship](#)

If you want some help getting your degree in engineering, apply now for ASPE's Alfred Steele Scholarship. The application is now online, and completed applications must be received by January 31, 2024 to be considered. [Apply now.](#)

Around the Water Cooler...

A new year has begun and with it comes hope for our future and more Water Cooler conversations to consider. Our first conversation considers the differences in trapped air and fluid flow in closed vs open systems. Read on...

I stumbled on an article in PM Engineer about air in Domestic Hot Water Return (DHWR) systems. Last week, I was working on a project where it had become obvious to me that there was air in the return line causing issues with the DHWR. Everyone kept saying the pump is shot or the pump is too small but I could see that how they laid the system out the pump was a prime candidate for an air pocket.

No one listened to me at first but I showed them the basics about my premise and it was enough for them to try an air vent as a temp solution (there was a spot where we took a gauge out). The air vent whistled for a good 90 seconds. As soon as the air was out the system went back to working properly. We were involved initially because our mixing valve "was not working" but it was merely a lack of return flow.

I encouraged them to re-route the piping and remove the air vent; time will tell if they do that. I

will probably get another call in a year and they will probably have to clean the air vent.

While many of us know the problem, our usual response is that the air will work its way out. As your example shows, that is not the case. Generally, we think of "closed loop" systems that once the air is removed the problem should not return. However, domestic water is only a closed loop when there is no flow through a fixture. Once the fixture allows water flow, it can expel the air, if properly piped. But if that air remains in the system, circulation will be reduced or in some cases not occur at all. Additionally, the introduction of "fresh water" into the system also brings in additional air within the water stream.

There are air vents that can be permanently left in a domestic system. However, it is not a recommended approach, as mineral build-up will eventually block the air vent. This adds to the maintenance costs and can be a challenge to provide adequate access to the air vent(s).

• You may recall that last month, we had a question from a tradesman considering sitting for the **Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) certification**. We offer the original question and another response to the query from a Cooler. Read on:

I have been a member of ASPE for close to a year now. And my membership is ending at the end of the month. My original intent was to become a member to gain the CPD. I'm wrestling with the idea of renewing my membership or just buying the recommended reading for the CPD at the discounted price.

I do not have higher education. I'm seeing that a lot of you carry professional engineer (PE) behind your name. I'm currently working as a service plumber with about 10 years well rounded experience. I have a passion for learning that drew me into ASPE and I have enjoyed reading communities postings over the past year. It has given me a much wider look at plumbing as a whole. I have loved the questions and problem solving that goes alongside of them.

There was a question that was posted a while ago, "Plumbing Engineer - Respected?" It hasn't deterred me from wanting the CPD. It brought more questions to my ideology of what I thought a plumbing engineer was.

- a. *Would I have to have a PE for the CPD to carry any weight?*
- b. *Do you get a stamp to approve blueprints?*
- c. *With my experience and with a CPD, could I at least be considered a plumbing consultant to a PE?*

d. *And finally, what would a CPD be worth to a Service Plumber?*

I am probably biased, as I have been a member for over 40 years. But ASPE is the international source of plumbing knowledge and it is in your best interest to stay involved.

Like you, I started out in the skilled trades as a plumber, taking that to being a master plumber. Over the years I have owned and operated a mechanical contracting firm as well as having worked for several large contracting firms. I became involved with ASPE to advance my knowledge of plumbing and plumbing systems.

While you may not have taken the higher education path, the CPD (when successfully passed) shows to your peers and employer that that you have achieved a higher level of knowledge than others. It shows your commitment to the profession and the advancement of your employers' knowledge base.

There is a difference between professional registration (PE) and certification (CPD). Both have value to you and your career. Professional registration is achievable through the path of higher education (4-year bachelor degree) along with State recognized examinations. The PE is recognized in law. On the other hand, certifications are provided through various organizations and technical societies to provide a path for those that wish to show a greater knowledge and willingness to advance within their profession. Certifications are not incorporated into the States' laws.

The CPD carries weight with many employers as it shows your willingness to seek greater knowledge and advance your career. As to the ability to sign and seal (stamp) construction documents (blueprints) that privilege is reserved by State laws to the registered professional. That ability to stamp documents also bring legal liabilities.

Over the years, I have known many designers that had previously been service plumbers, inspectors or contractors. All had varying levels of knowledge in plumbing design, but those with the CPD were better prepared to lead a design effort. Depending on your experiences, you certainly could become a designer working under the supervision of the registered professional in the consulting profession. Having a CPD would enhance your value to the consulting team.

As to your question about the CPD having value to the Service Plumber, the answer would be yes. Anytime one can increase their knowledge of the profession in which they have chosen to work within, it has value. The CPD will expand your knowledge of how and why things function as they do.

Respect is granted by our peers and earned by our efforts to gain said respect.

Just a little history, I started out as a Service Plumber. Over the years I obtained my Master Plumbers' license and owned a mechanical contracting business. I worked on my "higher education" for many years as a part-time student. While in my 40's I finished and obtained my Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineer. This saw me change my career path from contracting to consulting. As a consulting engineer, I completed the State's requirements by taking and passing the prescribed fundamentals and principles & practices exams to obtain my professional registration. In my case I took a long and winding path to my PE.

While the practices exam that I took in obtaining my registration was the HVAC&R module, I am very much a "Plumbing Engineer." While I am qualified and on occasion do HVAC, my interest has always been in plumbing systems.

Just something for you to consider. Remain in ASPE, become active and get your CPD.

**Looking to stay in touch
with the Chapter**



www.southwestern-ohio.aspe.org

Parting thought...

There's a time each winter when things go from magical to miserable. They call it "January".

-Maxine from "Crabby Road"



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