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Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society

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PLUMBING ENGINEERS
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JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING

Date: TUESDAY, January 13, 2026

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

Cost: \$20 online

Schedule: 11:30PM-1:30PM

Fire Pump Design Practice - Flowtronix

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
jfox@mwspec.com before noon on MONDAY,
January 12th, so that a head count can be
established. As always, guests are welcome.

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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.

Industry Panel for ASPE Young Professions
January 13, 2026

Fire Pump Controller Design Practices
January 13, 2026

PVDF - A Plenum Rated Thermoplastic
February 11, 2026

ASPE Convention & Expo - Oklahoma City
October 8-14, 2026

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...



Welcome to 2026! This upcoming technical session is a follow up to last month. In December we learned all about fire pumps: sizing, fuel options, NFPA specifics, and more. This month we'll discuss how to control those pumps with regard to NFPA 20; including power management, monitoring, and start/stop functions.

If Fire Protection generally interests you consider attending the local Tri-State Society of Fire Protection Engineers meetings. In April they are bringing in the same ethics speaker we had a few years ago: Susan Willeke from the Ohio Ethics Commission. This presentation will provide your required ethics CEU as part of Ohio PE licensure.

Registration for the 2026 ASPE Convention & Expo, held in Oklahoma City, will open soon. This is a huge event and the largest gathering of plumbing design professionals and manufacturers of the entire year. See any of your Board members if you're unfamiliar with the Convention & Expo and want to learn more and understand the benefit.

As always we are open to programming requests, please reach out to a Board member or submit on the website YOUR ideas for a technical presentation.

## Upcoming Events:

Next Chapter meeting – January 13, 2026:  
Fire Pump Controller Design Practices  
February 11, 2026 – PVDF – A Plenum  
Rated Thermoplastic  
October 8-14, 2026 – ASPE Convention &  
Expo – Oklahoma City

Thanks for being here, we like having you.

– **Andrew Hemmelgarn**  
**President**

**The Southwestern Ohio Chapter would like to wish a**

*Happy Birthday*

**to the following members celebrating their birthday this month:**

**Steve Ashpaw, Deana Crawford, Dick Davis, Doug Dockus, Michael Graziani, Tim Lehman, Daryn Meadows, Michael Moll, Kevin Neal, Greg Pearson, Daniel Prince, Michael Rahe, Chris Schreel, Brian Selander, David Texter and Ryan Voss**

**And the Chapter would like to wish a**

*Happy Anniversary*

**to the following members commemorating their ASPE anniversary this month:**

**Bret Abner, Josh Cable, Dick Davis, Michael Heaton, Justin Hobing, Kevin Neal, Greg Pearson, Jack Rahn, Daniel Ross, Keith Schloemer and Matt Sciarretti**

# Technically Speaking...



## Technically Speaking

January

Welcome to the wrong side of the holidays, but the right side of winter! Personally, I had some happy and bright time off, but I'm happy to get back to the routine. In December, Greg Trombold gave us a thorough brief on fire pumps, from code and standards to sizing and selection. This was a great refresher for those who know the subject, but really good for those who haven't yet sized a pump. Particularly I appreciated Greg's rundown on standpipe code, since that's something I haven't had the chance to encounter yet.

On the docket for January...more fire pumps! Ryan McKay and Charles McDonald with Flowtronix will be covering fire pump controller practices. This will be a bit more focused and less encompassing than December, but still great for those who specify fire pumps. See y'all then!

Cheers,

**– James Fiorini  
VP, Technical**

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## Legislative lingo...



914.3.1.2 2021 Redundant water supply connections are required for fire pumps in high-rise buildings over 120 feet in height when constructed of Type IVA or IVB construction.

[2025 OFC Chart of Significant Changes - JCARR - F](#)

### **2025 Ohio Fire Code Updates Effective 11/20**

Update to previous article is that the OFC is now effective. A couple notable changes below with a link to explore changes.

New language to adopt 2021 IFC (Chapters 1-11 and 20-80) and 2024 IFC (Chapter 12) as if fully incorporated except as modified throughout the OFC.

901.4.7: Additional requirements have been added for automatic sprinkler system riser rooms and fire pump rooms.

903.2.10, 903.2.11.3: Open parking garages are required to be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system when the fire area exceeds 48,000 square feet.

904.14 2018 Requires an automatic fire-extinguishing system to protect domestic cooking appliances in care facilities.

905.3.1: Standpipe systems are now required in buildings four or more stories in height. In addition, a Class I standpipe is allowed in Group B and Group E occupancies rather than a Class III. Class I manual standpipes are allowed in open parking garages where the highest floor is more than 150' above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages not subject to freezing temperatures if hose connections are located as required for Class II standpipes.

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



[www.southwestern-ohio.aspe.org](http://www.southwestern-ohio.aspe.org)

## Membership musings...



It is hard to believe that 2025 is gone and 2026 is here, hopefully you all enjoyed the holiday season and are excited to get back to work.

We had great attendance at our last meeting on Fire Pump Design Practices, which will roll well into our first meeting of 2026 on Fire Pump Controller Design Practices at Countryside YMCA in Lebanon on January 13<sup>th</sup>



We are 108 members strong this month with no new members to report on this month, we have 59 Full members, 17 Associate members, 28 Affiliate members, 3 Life members, and 1 Retired member.

As Andrew mentioned at the last meeting, we would like to recognize Mike Felton on his Life Membership Achievement. This achievement is eligible to those members

who are retired, have at least 25 years of accumulated membership and are nominated by their chapter. Mike has served in multiple roles for the chapter and been a member since November of 1995! Thank you, Mike, for all your leadership and service to the plumbing community. We are thankful you are staying on as a Life Member.

We would also like to thank those who renewed last month including Stacey Hazelwood, James Huesman, Alex Lee, Oksana Lysenko, Bill McCamey, Jonathan O'Donnell, Chris Schreel, Maddie Suggs, Dave Texter, and Matthew Wyles. We appreciate your continued support.

Total Membership		
	Dec 24'	Dec 25'
Buffalo-Niagara	45	46
Central Indiana	134	133
Central Ohio	123	132
Cleveland	96	102
Eastern Michigan	114	118
Johnstown	30	38
Kentucky Bluegrass	34	39
Pittsburgh	103	107
Rochester	85	84
Southern Indiana	42	37
<b>Southwestern Ohio</b>	108	108
Toronto	103	117
Western Michigan	94	99
Region 2 Total:	1111	1160

Thanks,

**– Brian Selander  
VP, Membership**

# PLUMBING SYSTEMS: COMMERCIAL IRONHEART PR

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Through the pipes...

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Learn More



Volume 19, Number 1, January 8, 2026 | [View all ASPE Pipeline articles online](#)

# ASPE Pipeline

News for the Plumbing System Design Industry

### 2026 Workshop Dates Announced

Our MedGas Workshop will be held four times this year, providing several opportunities to get the training needed for the ASSE 6060 exam.

- March 23–26, New York City
- June 11–14, Chicago
- September 17–20, Atlanta
- November 12–15, Chicago

You can learn more and register at [aspe.org/medgas-workshop](https://aspe.org/medgas-workshop).



### ASPE Convention & Expo Presentation Proposals Are Due by February 28

Do you want to share your expertise in plumbing system design? Our Convention & Expo provides the perfect opportunity to do so! The Technical Education Program on October 13–14 in OKC will offer dozens of sessions for all career levels, and we currently are accepting presentation proposals to build the schedule. If you want to showcase your skills this fall, visit [callforpresentations.aspe.org](https://callforpresentations.aspe.org) by February 28 to submit your proposal.



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## **2026 CPD Exam to Be Held This April**

If you seek to earn the Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) credential this year, be sure to fill out the eligibility form by the April 1 deadline. The exam is held via remote proctor, so if you are eligible you will be able to choose your exam date and time from April 13 to 24. [Fill out the eligibility form now>>](#)



**2026 CPD Review Classes**

March 10, 12, 17, 19, 24,

**The Tank Is Just the Beginning**

January 27, 2026 // 11 a.m. CST

WEBINAR

### **Learn How to Take the CPD Exam**

If you are considering taking the CPD exam, our virtual review classes in March will teach you insightful studying skills so you can prepare to ace it. [Learn more and sign up>>](#)

### **Earn 0.1 CEU on January 27**

Our next CEU webinar will help you understand the technical specifications and critical design considerations for brine system integration. [Register now>>](#)



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**ASPE**  
Convention & Expo  
OKLAHOMA CITY | 2026

**CONVENTION** October 8-11  
**EXPO** October 12-13

## **INDUSTRY NEWS**

- ASSE seeks volunteers to develop new professional qualifications standard
- Registration opens for ACE26 in Washington, D.C.
- Mueller Associates celebrates its 60th anniversary this year

[Get more industry news on ASPE Pipeline>>](#)

## AFFILIATE CORNER

### ***Taco's Zone Valve Controls Win CIPHEX West Award***

Taco Comfort Solutions is excited to share that their Next Generation Zone Valve Controls and Switching Relays were named a winner in the 2025 New Product Showcase at CIPHEX West + Electrical Learning Expo. [Learn more>>](#)



### ***Bradford White to Exhibit at AHR Expo 2026 in Las Vegas***

Bradford White will bring together its full portfolio of brands for the event, showcasing a combination of bestselling products, new product launches, and sneak peeks of upcoming innovations. [Learn more>>](#)



### ***Gain Visibility and Control Over Facility Water Use***

The Willoughby WMSII System offers facilities a practical, user-friendly approach to water management. Designed for straightforward installation with color-coded wiring, the system allows centralized monitoring and control of plumbing fixtures from a single computer interface. Users can enable remote actuation, set automatic run cycles, and shut down fixtures if needed, while receiving immediate audible and visual alerts when preset usage limits are exceeded. [Explore the system>>](#)



### ***T&S Brass Launches Compact Hose Reel for Washdown Applications***

The new MIDIREel is designed for operations requiring a durable, mid-capacity washdown solution without the footprint of a standard full-size reel. [Learn more>>](#)



### ***Aalberts Expands Manufacturing Footprint to the U.S.***

The project at Aalberts' Pageland, South Carolina facility will be implemented in phases through 2027, with the first U.S.-manufactured Apollo PowerPress products expected in early 2027. [Learn more>>](#)



### ***A. O. Smith Completes Acquisition of Leonard Valve Company***

Founded in 1911 and headquartered in Cranston, Rhode Island, Leonard Valve designs and manufactures water temperature control valves, digital and thermostatic mixing systems, and related monitoring devices. [Learn more>>](#)



### ***Rinnai Partners with Habitat for Humanity Canada***

The partnership underscores Rinnai's commitment to Creating a healthier way of living® and aligns with Habitat for Humanity Canada's work to bring people together to build homes, communities, and hope. [Learn more>>](#)



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Parting thought...

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

– Galatians 6:9

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