

# NASFM NEWS

## September 2008

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### Dear Member,

"Voice of NASFM" Moves On

Those of you who have called the NASFM Washington, DC, office anytime in the last 13 years will know the warm and caring voice of Ms. Connie Lamberson. NASFM's receptionist since 1995, Connie is moving on as of September 1, and her presence will be greatly missed.

Those who would like to wish Connie well in her future endeavors can reach her by email at [clamberson@aol.com](mailto:clamberson@aol.com).

NASFM Staff

### Annual Conference News

The NASFM Board has selected Seattle as the host city for the 2009 Annual Conference, and Chicago as host city for the 2010 Annual Conference. Please look for detailed information in upcoming editions of this newsletter.

### Request from Washington State Fire Marshal - Mike Matlick

Washington State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick is requesting your assistance with information on any state-wide awards issued in your State (i.e., best fire prevention program, fire marshal of the year, life saving awards, etc). Please provide your responses directly to Assistant SFM Anjela Pimentel [anjela.pimentel@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:anjela.pimentel@wsp.wa.gov) at the Washington State Fire Marshal's office.

Thank you in advance; your assistance is greatly appreciated.

### Product Safety Reform Legislation Signed Into Law



Despite concerns that reauthorization of the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) would not be achieved in this Congress, on August 14 President Bush signed into law the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-314). The Act increases the authority of and funding for the CPSC, particularly in the area of children's products. The two-person quorum of Commissioners is extended for one year, and staff increases will include personnel to inspect ports and overseas factories.

NASFM staff contact: Karen Suhr, 202.737.1226 or [kfernico@aol.com](mailto:kfernico@aol.com).

### NASFM Recognized for Use of GIS Technology



**ESRI**

NASFM was recognized by ESRI for its vision and leadership in using ESRI's geographic information system (GIS) technology. A Special Achievement in GIS Award was presented to NASFM on August 6, 2008 at the 28th Annual ESRI International User Conference.

To read more about this honor and the technology used visit the news section of the NASFM website or [Click Here](#).

## President Signs Higher Education Opportunity Act Into Law

President George W. Bush signed the Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315) on Thursday, August 14. This bill contains several important campus safety components, including the core provisions of the original Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know Act. This new law will require colleges to report fire safety information to the U.S. Department of Education. The specific language as it relates to the fire safety reporting and the entire text of the Report of the Conference Committee can be downloaded from the Center for Campus Fire Safety website [Click Here](#) or visit: <http://www.campusfiresafety.org/>

## The NASFM-CGA Connection

Through our cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, NASFM has been charged with identifying the role of the fire service community in preventing third-party damage to pipelines by working with the Common Ground Alliance (CGA), state pipeline safety agencies and pipeline operators. NASFM is a Bronze Sponsor for the CGA and is represented on the CGA Board of Directors by NASFM President, Alan Shuman.

CGA represents a continuation of the damage prevention efforts embodied by the Common Ground Study, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation and completed in 1999. This study represents the collaborative work of 160 industry professionals who identified best practices relating to damage prevention.

CGA is a member-driven association dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices. In promoting a spirit of shared responsibility, CGA welcomes all stakeholders who would like to be a part of the identification and promotion of best practices that lead to a reduction in damage.

NASFM has funding to enable State Fire Marshals to join CGA. If you would like to become a CGA member, please contact Courtney Clyatt [clyatt@firemarshals.org](mailto:clyatt@firemarshals.org).

Also, CGA's most recent newsletter contains coverage of NASFM under the News section of the NASFM Website, [Click Here](#).

## Best Practices in Residential Fire Protection - Free Reports Available

With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, the TriData Division of System Planning Corporation has prepared two reports that are available online: Global Concepts in Residential Fire Safety: Part 1 - Best Practices from England, Scotland, Sweden and Norway; and Part 2 - Best Practices from Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Download them for free at: <http://www.sysplan.com/tridata/publications/international>.

## Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars!

**September 17-18:** Hydrogen Workshop, Detroit, MI

**September 17-23:** ICC Final Action Hearings, Minneapolis, MN

**September 19:** NASFM Board Meeting, Minneapolis, MN