

news¬es

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President's Message

Robert Vasquez, President

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

Another year has come and gone as we wrap up our 4th quarter newsletter. I want to take this opportunity to go over our annual conference this year from San Luis Obispo. This year was another great turnout by YOU, our membership, and our lovely Vendors, so take a bow! Without you, none of this would be possible and we want you to know how much we appreciate it and you.

Friday's festivities started this trip with our annual Technicians training day. We had three classes this year Sprinklers, Fire extinguishers and Emergency Exit Lights, all were successful. We heard very good things out of these classes. During the technician training we held the annual CALSAFE golf tournament at Morro Bay golf course. Locally known as poor mans pebble beach this course is a beautiful look of some of what SLO county has to offer including beautiful views of the bay. We had a great turn out for this and were even surprised with some new first timers and the State Fire Marshals office. To round out Friday evening, we had our Friday vendor reception. This was an interesting trial this year as we had to work with a two-room vendor room. This presented some issues, however thanks to our gracious vendors and resilient membership we found a way to make this work.

Saturday began the annual conference, starting very early for CALSAFE board members to ensure we meet the standards our members have become accustomed to. However, record highs in temperature brought the building back down to earth and we quickly realized that even inside, it was going to be a warm one. We started Saturday's event with the pledge of allegiance and a visit from our state fire marshal. It has been many years since the state fire marshal joined us, so it was a very nice thing to see State Fire Marshal Chief Daniel Berlant. Chief Berlant was very impressed with our turnout and the questions he



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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received from our members. We followed up the state fire marshal with our keynote speaker, "Mr. Make It Great" Cedric Crawford. As a 14-year CALSAFE Veteran I have never seen the room as alive as it was with Cedric. The mood was upbeat and exciting, and the feeling was electric. He is absolutely someone we will have back in the future! Following the keynote speaker, we moved on to our vendor reception where our vendors hit a homerun with knowledge and energy level. It was amazing to see how excited everyone was and see our vendors thrive in their environment. After the vendor reception we broke for lunch and came back to a presentation from Everlux signs. This presentation was well received and had a plethora of information regarding self-illumination standards in signage. Coming toward the end of our day we had the state fire marshal's office give us an update on licensing renewals and a general update from the office of the state fire marshal. To round out our afternoon we had an almost unheard of event. Rob Getz gave us all a run down on trouble shooting the Getz box as well as some dos and don'ts for working on and maintaining them.

I want to thank everyone that attended this event for making it another special year and making this organization grow into the future. Without you all this would not work. On behalf of the CALSAFE Board of directors thank you all for your time at the event and we hope to see you all at next years event in Valencia for our 30th anniversary!

FED Learning Center

By Nicki Smith

The FED Learning Center played a pivotal role in advancing the cause of fire and life safety at the recent CALSAFE Conference. Amidst a gathering of industry professionals and experts, the FED Learning Center took the opportunity to offer in-depth training sessions on key aspects of fire safety. Participants immersed themselves either in Portable Fire Extinguishers, Exit Signs and Emergency Lighting, or Automatic Sprinklers.

The training sessions were designed to provide a holistic understanding of fire safety, ensuring that attendees were not only well-versed in the guiding codes and standards but also gained practical skills to handle real-world scenarios effectively. The Portable Fire Extinguishers module delved into the types of extinguishers, their optimal usage, and the importance of regular maintenance. The Exit Signs and Emergency Lighting session covered the critical role these elements play in evacuations, emphasizing compliance with safety regulations. Meanwhile, the Automatic Sprinklers training equipped participants with insights into the design, installation, and maintenance of these systems, highlighting their crucial role in fire suppression.

The FED Learning Center takes pride in contributing to the CALSAFE Conference, an event that gathers professionals and experts in the field of safety. The privilege of providing training on essential elements, like fire extinguishers, exit signs, emergency lighting, and automatic sprinklers, underscores our dedication to fostering a safer environment by providing quality training. We are honored to have been part of this conference, furthering our mission to empower individuals and organizations with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect lives and property in the face of potential fire hazards.

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Annual Conferenc Photos



A Word from the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Office

With renewals occurring almost year-round, between the Portable Fire Extinguisher Program and the Automatic Extinguishing Systems Program, we thought it would be a good idea to provide a few reminders!

- Sprinkler Fitter renewals, including Trainee and Apprentice will now start on January 1 each year, to follow what is written in regulations.
- You have through May 1 to submit your application without incurring a late fee. Any application submitted after May 1 will be subject to a late fee. This includes applications that are rejected due to errors and resubmitted after May 1.
- You do not need the email notice from GovMotus to submit your renewal application. The emails are courtesy reminders and should not be relied upon to submit a renewal.
- When attempting to renew your license or certification, be sure to open and complete a "Renewal Application", not an "Update Contact Information Application". You can update your information from a renewal application, however you cannot renew from an update contact information application.

Happy renewals and please reach out to us if you have any questions!



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BeCareful What You Take for Granted

by Frank Sonnenberg



When was the last time you paused to acknowledge all the wonderful things in your life such as good health, a roof over your head, and people who love you? The fact is that most people are so busy chasing things they don't have, that they fail to appreciate the things they do. Be careful what you take for granted.

Some people think they're in reasonably good health, their relationships are solid, and they have stashed away enough savings for an emergency. That gives them breathing room to take their eye off the ball and focus on other matters. After all, what could go wrong?

PLENTY!

When you take people or things for granted, you put them in jeopardy. It's not enough to make up for neglect after they've slipped away. As the saying goes, "People say you don't know what you've got until it's gone. Truth is, you knew exactly what you had... you just never thought you'd lose it."

When you lose sight of the things that matter, you put them in jeopardy.

WHAT DO YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED?

Continuously remind yourself of the wonderful things in your life. Here are 10 things you should never take for granted:

Relationships. Think about the energy consumed to build meaningful relationships. Do you continue to put your heart into them or expect friendships to take care of themselves? Invest in relationships to avoid the time repairing them.

Winning. When you're winning a game, you may begin to taste victory. But that's when you're most vulnerable. In the immortal words of Yogi Berra, the baseball legend, "It ain't over 'til it's over."

Youth. Children don't stay young forever. In fact, before you know it, they'll grow up and have kids of their own. If you want to be part of your child's life, make it a priority, because time won't wait.

Special moments. When you account for every second, you miss precious moments. Enjoy the moment. You won't have it again.

Employee loyalty. Most executives say that attracting and retaining employees is a top priority. Too bad their actions don't match their words. According to a poll, "Nearly half of American workers (46%) have left a job because they feel unappreciated."*

Customers. Many companies work hard to attract new customers and then neglect them to chase new business. That's their loss. Be careful what you treat as a given.

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BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED

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Goodness of people. Do you take the time to thank people who made a difference in your life? If you wait too long, that person may pass away, and you'll lose the chance forever.

Success. Some people who rise to the top get overconfident. They rarely look over their shoulder to see if competitors are gaining ground. Remember, success is not guaranteed, it's temporary.

Good times. Some folks think good times will last forever...until they don't. Life is filled with ups and downs, so make the most of the in-betweens.

Freedom. Be careful what you take for granted. As former President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is a fragile thing and it's never more than one generation away from extinction. It is not ours by way of inheritance; it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation, for it comes only once to a people. And those in world history who have known freedom and then lost it have never known it again."

APPRECIATE WHAT YOU HAVE

Some people who have a close-knit family, enjoy a splendid career, are blessed with good health, and fortunate to have trusting relationships, don't appreciate how good they have it. While these things were once a priority, now they're treated as a "given" — no longer requiring significant attention. Moreover, some people may even feel a little bored and begin to look for something new in their life. It never crosses their mind that if they take these things for granted, they may lose the things they cherish most.

Appreciate what you have before it becomes what you had.

You are blessed with many things in your life. You live in a free society, have power to control your destiny, and are surrounded by people who love you. What more could you want? The problem is that the more you see these blessings, the greater likelihood you turn a blind eye to them. Be careful what you take for granted.

Check out Frank's NEW book, *Leadership by Example: Be a role model who inspires greatness on others*

ARE YOU CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED?

Please leave a comment and tell us what you think or share it with someone who can benefit from the information

ADDITIONAL READING:

- Complacency: The Enemy of Success
- Do You Compare Yourself to Others?
- What Constitutes a Meaningful Life?
- Moments Lost
- 14 Things You Can't Afford to Take for Granted
- How to Create a Win-Win Relationship
- 25 Ways to Avoid a Lifetime of Regret

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The post *Be Careful What You Take For Granted* appeared first on Frank Sonnenberg Online.

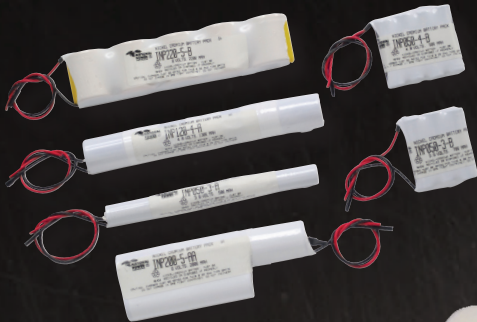
About Frank Sonnenberg

*Frank Sonnenberg is an award-winning author and a well-known advocate for moral character, personal values, and personal responsibility. He has written 10 books and has been named one of "America's Top 100 Thought Leaders" and one of "America's Most Influential Small Business Experts." Frank has served on several boards and has consulted to some of the largest and most respected companies in the world. Frank's newest book, *Leadership by Example: Be a role model who inspires greatness in others* was released, June 2023.*



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