

February 2021

# NEO Newsletter

Dear Prevention Bureau Staff,

Northeast Ohio Safety Educators' Network is celebrating one year! This month, we'll look at the accomplishments associated with this group – and the achievements of its members.

Be sure to check out *Northeast Ohio Safety Educators' Network – Making a Difference* for details on what we've been up to during the last 12 months!

Sincerely,

## Congratulations!

Angela Potter

## Northeastern Ohio Fire Prevention Association (NEOFPA)

### Bi-Directional Amplifiers (BDA) and Code Requirements Chad Merinar and Joe Inglett - Life Safety Systems, LLC



Join NEOFPA on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 9:00am on WebEx, for a virtual presentation from representatives of Honeywell and Life Safety Systems, LLC on BDA and code requirements.

Visit [North Eastern Ohio Fire Prevention Association](http://North Eastern Ohio Fire Prevention Association) at [NEOFPA.org](http://NEOFPA.org) and [NEOFPA on Facebook](#)



## Upcoming Events

### February 1

**NEOFPA Virtual Meeting on WebEx 9:00am – 11:00am**

BDA and Code Requirements

[RSVP - NEOFPA Meeting](#)

### February 3

**NEOSEN Virtual Meeting on MS Teams 9:30am – 11:00am**

Safe Seniors – Solution for residents to safely remain at home

[RSVP - NEOSEN Meeting](#)

“Today’s codes and standards require all buildings to have approved radio coverage for emergency responders within the building...”

[Life Safety Systems, LLC](#)

## Northeast Ohio Safety Educators Network (NEOSEN)

**Safe Senior Program – A solution that enables residents to safely remain in their home**

### Lieutenant Kevin Nelson – Hudson Fire Department

Lt. Kevin Nelson, Fire Life Safety Educator at Hudson Fire Department, began his career in 2007 as a volunteer firefighter. After becoming an Inspector and Educator, he was hired as one of 5 full time members and inherited a robust fire safety education program from Miss Ginger.

Hudson is 25 square miles with a population of just over 22,000. In the city, there are large businesses, such as Allstate Insurance and Little Tikes, as well as smaller, local businesses located downtown and throughout the area, which collectively employ approximately 10,600 people. In addition, Hudson has 4 school systems (public and private) in the community - Hudson City Schools, ranked 460<sup>th</sup> in the nation and a boarding school, ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

This month, Lt. Nelson will share information about the Safe Seniors Program, designed to fulfill a need to provide a safe solution in the community of Hudson, enabling residents to safely remain in their homes. He will discuss the opportunities and expansion of this successful program. Join NEOSEN, virtually, February 3, 2021 at 9:30am on MS Teams to learn more!



## Ohio Fire Academy

### Virtual Training Opportunities

February 9, 2021

[Ohio Fire Incident Reporting \(OFIRS\)](#)

February 11, 2021

[Fire Safety for Healthcare Facilities - FD Train-the-Trainer](#)

February 17-18, 2021

[Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist, NFPA 1035, 2015 edition](#)

February 20-21, 2020

[Annual Fire Chiefs' Symposium](#)

March 24 – April 21, 2021

[Fire & Life Safety Educator Level I, NFPA 1035, 2015 edition](#)



## Training

### Program Development

#### Converting Elementary Safety Lessons for Virtual Delivery

Mel Gammell, Stow FD

#### Fire Prevention Week Goes Virtual!

Scott Sebastian, South Euclid FD

#### Creating a Robust Prevention Program

Maria Bostian, Kannapolis FD,  
Kannapolis, NC

#### Youth Firesetter Intervention

Becky Mundy, Akron Children's Hospital

### Professional Development

#### Interacting with People of All Abilities

Tricia Streharsky and Lucy Boss,  
Summit DD

#### CRR Leadership – Level Up!

Michael Sedlacek, Madison FD,  
Madison, AL

#### Strategic Community Risk Reduction

Michael Weller, National Fire Academy,  
Emmitsburg, MD

#### Building Relationships with Stakeholders

Steve Waltman, Ohio Division of State Fire Marshal

#### Tips, Tricks and Tools –

#### Taking Your Programs Virtual

Brene Duggins, Holly Grove FD,  
Lexington, NC

## Northeast Ohio Safety Educators' Network

In February 2020, NEOSEN held its first member meeting at Richfield Fire Department (Summit County), followed by a second meeting in March.



Shortly thereafter, the Ohio Department of Health issued a Director's Order to prohibit mass gatherings. Like everyone else, NEOSEN began to navigate uncharted waters, and jumped right into virtual meetings. This has enabled the network to grow!

Over the past year, NEOSEN has held 10 meetings, providing training to 394 Ohioans responsible for community education. Each session focused on preparing members – sharing ideas, experience, tools and resources necessary to enhance outreach.

Northeast Ohio Safety Educators Network has offered training for Professional Development as well as Program Development. We've been fortunate to learn from speakers that live and work locally, as well as several others from across the United States!

Visit [Northeast Ohio Safety Educators Network](https://www.noesen.org) at [NEOSEN.org](https://www.noesen.org) and [NEOSEN on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NEOSEN)

## Northeast Ohio Safety Educators' Network – Making a Difference

COVID-19 has certainly had an impact on everyone this past year. During this pandemic, one of the most significant challenges for Prevention Bureau staff has been to adapt current (and develop new) community outreach programs that adhere to the recommended social distancing guidelines. Northeast Ohio Safety Educators' Network quickly recognized that, in order to support members and ensure a smooth transition, we needed to provide access to additional training and resources. In addition to professional and program development, check out these highlights from our first year!

### Meet and Greet

Ohio's 39<sup>th</sup> Fire Marshal joined a virtual meeting in the fall to introduce himself and chat with the group.

### Communication

Communication is vital to the success of any network. NEOSEN uses several platforms to share information including a monthly newsletter, meetings, email, website and social media.

### Making a Difference

This is where we feature departments and personnel dedicated to Prevention and Education - to showcase amazing things going on in our area! So far, we've recognized 17 departments in the NEO Newsletter and countless others on social media!

### Partnerships

Representatives from several agencies across Ohio (and beyond) share a wealth of experience and knowledge with the group. NEOSEN members had an opportunity to participate in a pilot course at the National Fire Academy as a result of one such partnership.

### Resources

Establishing a robust database continues to be a work in progress. Currently, we're able to provide NEOSEN members with details about specific community programs, equipment (safety trailer, fire extinguisher simulator, Sparky and the Firetruck, Safety Town, Safety Forces Camp, etc.) and prevention staff in their area.

### Youth Firesetter Taskforce

Multiple state and local agencies worked together to assist with Youth Firesetter Intervention. Educators helped one another with intake interviews, assessments, lesson content, materials and education sessions.