



inFIRE Conference 2008
Detroit, MI
Fires, Safety and Information:
Uniting the Pieces
May 5-8, 2008



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

MONDAY

ADAM GROVES

Adam Groves is the archivist and metadata librarian at the IFSI Library is managing the archives and institutional repository collections. His library experience includes processing archival and manuscript collections for the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and work as an archives assistant for the Mahn Center for Archives and Special Collections at Ohio University. He received an M.S. from the U of I's Graduate School of Library and Information Science and a B.A. in history from O.U. He is an active member of the Midwest Archives Conference and the Society of American Archivists.

KURT LAYSON

Kurt Layson is Regional Manager for Google Enterprise. He is responsible for extending Google technology into the Enterprise including the Google Search Appliance, Google Apps for the Enterprise, Google Maps and Earth. Kurt has 12 years of experience working with search technologies, and has overseen implementations at GM, Ford, Chrysler, Dow Chemical and many fortune 500 companies throughout the Midwest.

SUSAN WALKER

Susan Walker Susan has been the Librarian at Fire Protection Publications/IFSTA at Oklahoma State University since 1995. Her interest in archives and libraries began when she was Assistant to the Curator at the Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas and then worked on a two year grant project with the Prints and Photographs Department, Chicago Historical Society. From there she went to Indiana University to work on her MLS and served as Manuscripts Assistant in the Lilly Library at IU. After receiving her masters, she accepted a position with the Oklahoma State University Library special collections and university archives. From there she went to her dream job with FPP/IFSTA.

Susan is a member of Special Libraries Association and has been a member of inFIRE, since 1996 and has served as Communications Officer, member of the Executive Committee and is past chairperson of inFIRE.

Personally, she is a big sports fan, in particular the 2008 NCAA Basketball Champions, University of Kansas Jayhawks, Kansas City Royals, and Kansas City Chiefs. She lives in the country with ten cats, four dogs, and a horse.

MARTHA MURPHY

Martha Murphy is the librarian with the Fire Sciences Library & Audio-Visual Resource Centre of the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal in the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. Martha was unable to attend this year's conference, but has sent a proposal for inFIRE that will be presented by Laura Logan.

TUESDAY

ERIK SWONDER

Erik Swonder is an electrical engineer with Safety Engineering Laboratories. Erik is experienced in the forensic failure analysis and examination of electrical items, including the post-fire/failure examination of residential, commercial, and industrial electrical products, electrical components, and electrical systems as potential causes or victims of fire. Erik has a BS in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University and an MS in Electrical Engineering from Wayne State University.

CHARLES FARLEY

Charles Farley has been with the Oakland County Sheriff Office since April 22, 1991 and has been assigned to the Fire Investigation Unit as a Fire Investigator since Feb. 23, 2004. He holds his fire investigator certification through the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualifications (NBFSPQ). He has investigated and or assisted in the investigation of approximately 300 fires to date and is also employed as a paid on call Firefighter/MFR with the Hadley Twp. F.D. where he is a Lieutenant. He has been employed with Hadley Twp. since July of 2005 and was previously employed with the Atlas Twp. F.D. from 1998 to 2005. He is currently on the Board of the Michigan Arson Prevention Committee (MAPC) with the Education Sub-committee and he is the Treasurer for the Oakland County Association of Arson and Fire Investigators (OCAAFII). He has attended several training classes including the Michigan State Police Basic and Advanced Fire Investigation classes as well as the Modular Home and Vehicle Fire Investigation Schools. He has also attended the Homeland Security Prevention Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents (PRSBI) and Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings (IRTB) classes in New Mexico as well as the Law Enforcement Prevention and Deterrence of Terrorist Acts and Operational WMD Response for Law Enforcement classes through the Louisiana State University.

SUPERVISORY BORDER PATROL AGENT KURSTAN ROSBERG

Agent Rosberg is a Supervisory Border Patrol Agent originally assigned to the San Diego Sector Border Patrol. Before working with the Border Patrol, he earned his Juris Doctorate degree in Michigan in 1999. Later that year, he began his Border Patrol career at the San Clemente, California Border Patrol Station. In 2005, as a Senior Patrol Agent, he was assigned to the San Diego Sector's Public Information Office.

In August 2006, Agent Rosberg accepted a promotion to Supervisory Border Patrol Agent with the Detroit Sector. He is currently in charge of the Sector's Public Information Office and Congressional Affairs Office, under the direction of an Assistant Chief Patrol Agent.

THURSDAY

DR. JOHN HOFFMANN

Dr. Hoffmann has, over a thirty year period, investigated and analyzed numerous fires, explosions and accidents. He has also participated in a wide variety of occupational safety and health program analyses. These investigations have included on-site evaluations, post investigation analysis and reconstruction, fire and chemical testing, technical advisory services

and expert testimony. Expert testimony in depositions and trials has been given throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada.

MATS BORNSTRÖM

Mats Bornström has been the librarian at the Swedish Rescue Services Agency since 2000. After 10 years in gourmet seafood retailing on the Swedish west coast, he started his studies in Library and Information Science in 1996. In 1999 he received his Master of Science in Library and Information Studies at the University College of Borås, Sweden.

Mats is currently working with Library user education for Fire Brigade personnel. He has been a member of the inFIRE executive committee since 2005.

ANNE KARLE-ZENITH

Anne Karle-Zenith is the Special Projects Librarian at the University of Michigan Library in Ann Arbor. She serves as assistant to the Associate University Librarian for Library Information Technology and Technical Services, as well as project coordinator for the UM/Google partnership to digitize the Library's collections. Prior to coming to University of Michigan, she served as Metadata & Cataloging Librarian at the Michigan State University Libraries. She graduated in 2003 from the University of Michigan School of Information with a specialization in Library Services. Before becoming a librarian she lived for many years in New York City, where she worked in the music industry, licensing music as well as other copyrighted works for use in advertising, film, television and other media.

BILL PESSEMIER

Bill Pessemier holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the Univ of Illinois and is currently working on a Ph.D. in Public Affairs at the Univ of Colorado at Denver. Chief Pessemier spent 25 years in the fire service serving in a number of positions throughout his career, from firefighter to training officer to fire chief. Prior to his retirement as the fire chief in Littleton, CO, Bill was the incident commander for the fire and emergency medical response to the shootings at Columbine High School. Currently he is an Adjunct Professor with the Fire and Emergency Management master's program at Oklahoma State University.