

Visit us at WWW.SCLIGHTNING.COM

Volume 1 Issue 2 | November 2009

ANGEL OAK like tree **KILLED BY LIGHTNING**



This neighborhood amenity was recently **FELLED** by lightning. Many are not aware that Lightning Protection can be used to protect trees as well as buildings. We regularly install Lightning Protection in trees not only to preserve these natural amenities but also as a way to extend protection to isolated security gate mechanisms. **Continued on page 3...**

Thank you for all your support of Lightning Protection. Although, most systems we install are to new construction we remind you that during renovations is an excellent time to add a concealed Lightning Protection System to non-protected homes. Even if you are not remodeling, a complete Lightning Protection System can be inconspicuously installed at any time. We remind you all that the cooler months translate into savings when adding a Lightning Protection System to existing homes; attics are cooler! Be proactive, a busy Lightning season is on the way.

Contest rules on page 1

Find the Lightning Bolt for a chance to win a \$100.00 gift card!!!

SCLP Conducts Training for City of Charleston Fire Chief



Pictured above from left to right is Robert Schulz, Assistant Chief Raymond A. Lloyd, Frank Clarkin and Deputy Chief Frank Finley accepting their certificates of completion for the Lightning Protection Basics 101 continuing education class. Also receiving certificates are City of Charleston Fire Chief Tom Carr and Public Information Officer Mark Ruppel, not pictured.

Architects and Engineers Embrace Continuing Education

Our hats are off to the Lightning Safety Alliance (LSA). They have developed a great teaching tool in the Lightning Protection Basics 101 class. This educational class is good for one credit under the AIA continuing education program. We have received a lot of interest in this class over the last several months and have presented this one hour lunch and learn to over forty people. Taking knowledge in very diverse directions from the City of Charleston Fire Chief Tom Carr and three assistant Chiefs to architectural and engineering firms specializing in custom residential construction, municipal infrastructure, historic preservation and mili-

tary facilities. Call our office today at **(843) 388-0045** and speak to Annette or email us at sclightning@bellsouth.net to schedule one for your group. We will even bring lunch!

FREE \$100.00 GAS CARD!!!

Somewhere in this newsletter there is a lightning bolt. When you have correctly located the lightning bolt, like the one below, call or email us to have your name entered into a lottery drawing for a **\$100.00** gas gift card. Good luck to all!!! **See page 2 for contest details.**



CSST Research Project

SCLP was proud to host Dr. Mitchell Guthrie this past summer when he visited Charleston. He was here to research the vast supply of CSST/Lightning linked fires we have experienced in the low country this summer.

Together we collected fire site data on Johns Island, Headquarters Island, Folly Beach, Peninsula Charleston, Tolers Cover and Rivertowne in Mount Pleasant and at two homes on Daniel Island. All but two contained CSST; none were equipped with Lightning Protection. Due to time constraints we were unable to visit the other burned structures in our immediate area. Dr. Mitchell Guthrie is a Consulting Engineer on the National Fire Protection Association Technical Committee on Lightning Protection.

For a **FREE** Lightning Protection System estimate go to our website www.sclightning.com complete the questionnaire and email it to us for a thumb nail quote. Call us with all questions.

TWO FIRES WITHIN 30 DAYS!!!

Johns Island homeowner extinguishes TWO lightning caused fires



Pictured above from left to right is Dr. Guthrie, Robert Schulz and Ricky Floyd.

NFPA FORMS SPECIAL TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE LIGHTNING AND CSST

Lightning energy burned through the original (yellow) CSST causing a fire. A six foot section of this older pipe was replaced with the supposed "answer to lightning problem" black pipe. Within thirty days a strike to the home caused a second fire at the exact location as the first!

Homeowner Mr. Ricky Floyd described the fire as like a 2' blow torch. He credits the grace of God in the salvation of the family home.

CSST has been found to be a dangerous link to many lightning sparked fires nationwide. In December 2008 the Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters voted to temporarily rescind the approval of all CSST installations in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. On February 5, 2009 the Board reversed its decision and reinstated the use of CSST. Going forward Massachusetts will require that an electrician will pull an electrical permit to cover the installa-

tion of CSST bonding connections. A full reading of their ruling seems to reveal that CSST manufacturers reacted strongly to the State's decision. The rulings make no reference to NFPA 780 and it is disappointing that the State accepted the word of pipe manufacturers as experts on lightning related matters.

CSST related problems continue to be prevalent in structures involved in lightning strikes. The NFPA voted to form a special task force August 6, 2009 to investigate technical issues related to lightning and CSST.

CSST is a flexible metal piping product that is much thinner than traditional gas piping. It is susceptible to damage in the form of pin-holes when subjected to high intensity electrical charges.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

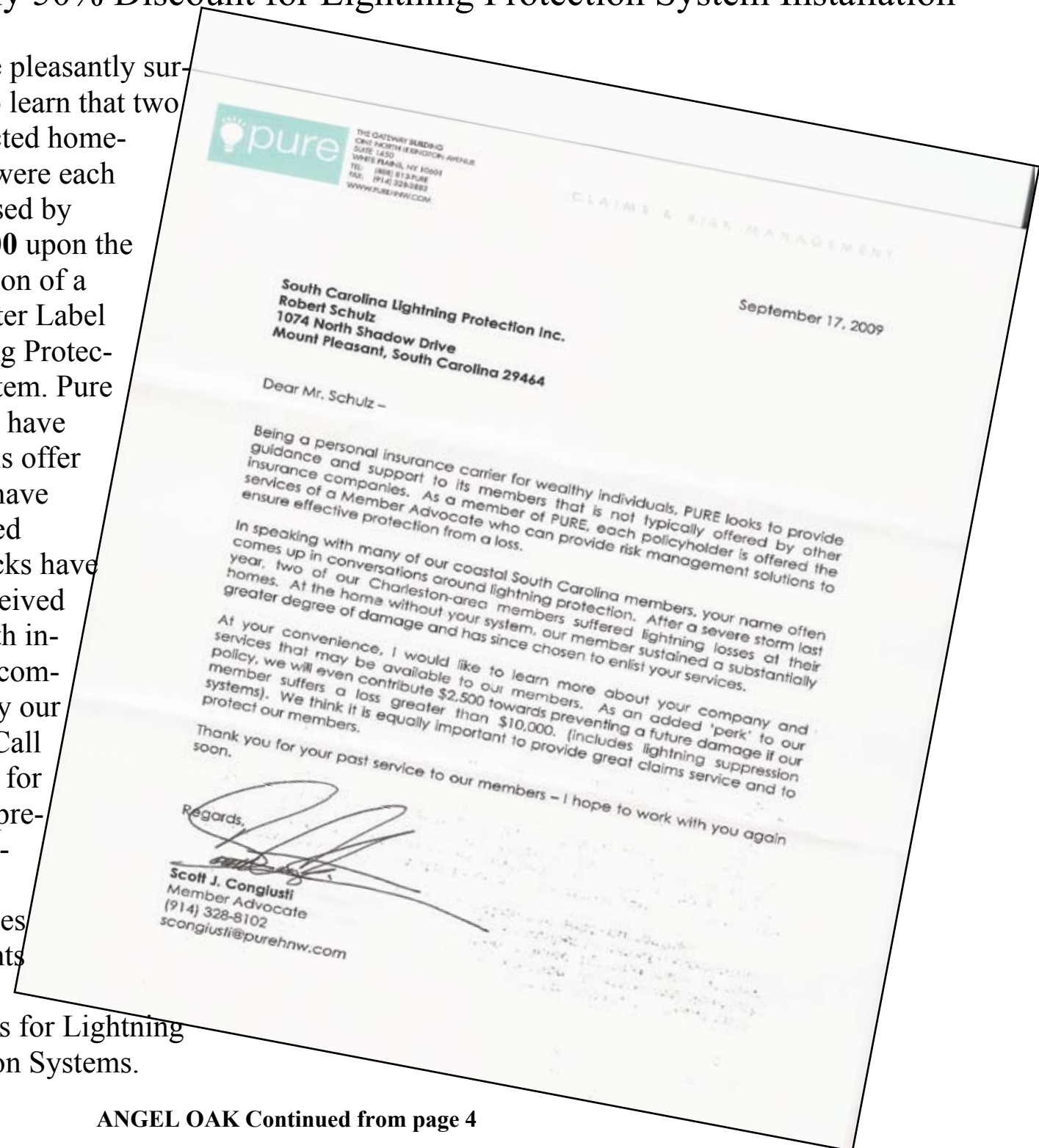
The deadline for calling with the lightning bolts' location is November 30, 2009. The drawing will take place on December 4, 2009.

UL# E214874

1074 North Shadow Drive * Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464 * 843-388-0045

Nearly 50% Discount for Lightning Protection System Installation

We were pleasantly surprised to learn that two unprotected homeowners were each reimbursed by **\$2,500.00** upon the installation of a UL Master Label Lightning Protection System. Pure and AIU have made this offer and we have confirmed that checks have been received from both insurance companies by our clients. Call us today for a list of preferred insurance companies and agents offering discounts for Lightning Protection Systems.



ANGEL OAK Continued from page 4

We use only certified arborist to assist us as we direct the location and placement of Lightning Protection equipment apparatus. We had hoped that part of this tree could be saved, unfortunately the tree has since died. See accompanying Moultrie News story on our website at www.sclighting.com as a youngster recounts his feelings of loss when his neighborhood also loses one of their elders.

UL# E214874

1074 North Shadow Drive * Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464 * 843-388-0045