

American Society of Safety Engineers

Western PA Chapter



The President's Message

October 2007	
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It was a great day for the Chapter; the Shannon Safety Expo held on September 26th was well attended and well-received. Over 225 safety professionals from all over Western Pennsylvania (and beyond) enjoyed excellent presentations on a wide variety of safety topics, visited over 24 different vendors and generally enjoyed networking with their colleagues. Events like this would not be possible without the assistance of many of your fellow Chapter members. Many thanks to our Chapter members who invested a lot of time to provide presentations to the attendees - Fran Sehn, Del Kubeldis and Bob McClay. Thanks also to Fran Sehn, Steve Tima, Bill Boots, Nick Kachur, Thad Pajak, Kim Morrison, Carl Heinlein, Jim Feeny and Rick Schultz for helping with registration and moderating sessions. We will definitely be looking to do this event again soon; Shannon is the key organizer so we are waiting to hear whether they want to do it in another year or 18 months, but will let you know as soon as we do. Finally, several presenters have allowed us to post their presentations on the Chapter website if you missed the event or wanted to get a copy.

As the fall progresses and we are finally getting some seasonal weather, our technical programs will get into full swing. By the time you read this, our first joint meeting with a Student Section will have occurred at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. These opportunities to interact with future safety professionals are a vital link to the future of our profession. It's also an excellent way for all of us to give back to those that helped us when we were just starting out. If you were not able to attend this meeting, I encourage you to keep your eyes out for the joint meeting with our Student Section at Slippery Rock University that we are hoping to schedule in the spring (probably April).

Speaking of future meetings we have several good ideas that we are pursuing for the winter/spring classes, but everything is not yet locked in. If you have an idea for a topic or a presenter that you think we should look into, please let me know.

Finally, our favorite meeting of the year – the Holiday Luncheon – is set for Friday December 7th at the Churchill Valley Country Club. We always get a good crowd for this event. So mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Don't forget that we will be looking for door prizes. Our prize table has overflowed in previous years, so look around your office and see what you can bring.

Yours in safety!

Pam Ferrante, CSP, CHMM
 Western PA President
pam@jcsafety.com
 412.414.4769

Chapter Events Calendar

October 22nd – 6:00 PM

We will be having a dinner meeting with our Student Chapter at IUP in Foster Dining Hall, Oak Dining Room, Indiana University of PA, Indiana, PA. We hope to make this an annual fall event. The topic will be “Management-based Safety (MBS) – A Best Practice Approach to the Safety Process”. The presenters will be Sam Gualardo, MA, CSP of IUP OSHA Consultation, past Society President, and National Safety Associates. Glenn Goss, Director of Safety for Jennmar will present an overview of MBS and the impact this robust process has had on safety at Jennmar. The cost is \$20.00 (No charge for students). Reservations can be made using the ASSE Western PA Hotline at (412) 281-1885 or contact Nick Kachur at (412) 777-4242 or nkachur@nevchem.com. The menu is the "Driving Through Tuscany Buffet" which includes Italian Salad, Fresh Mozzarella with Tomatoes, Bread Basket, Veal Piccata, Grilled Salmon Fillet with Pesto Tuscan Style Orzo (finished with shaved parmesan, sauteed wild mushrooms, orange zest and fresh herbs), Italian Long Cut Ratatouille (zucchini, yellow squash, eggplant, marinated olives, tomatoes and grilled onions), and a Mini desert assortment.

November 15th – 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM at the Greentree Holiday Inn

Our first breakfast meeting of the year – jumpstart your day with a hearty breakfast and listen to a review of the importance of being prepared for any type of emergency and the role that safety professionals and emergency responders have in preparedness. Our presenter will be Kathy Criss, Director of the UPMC Disaster Management Center. Her topic will be Disaster Preparedness. Our cost for this event is still being determined, but it will not be the typical \$25.00 we charge for lunches or dinners.

December 7th

Annual Holiday Luncheon at the Churchill Valley Country Club – hold the date. Always one of the best attended meetings of the year – you won't want to miss it.

Editorial Note: The monthly newsletter will be published electronically – posted on the chapter website – during the third week of each month. Therefore, all material to be placed in the newsletter for the month needs to be in the email mailbox of this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net by the 15th of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,

Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS

Government Affairs Update

PA Legislative Activity

Government Affairs Update information was unavailable at the time of publishing.

Local News and Events

ASSE Membership Changes

As a member of ASSE you should be aware of changes in membership criteria that were approved by the House of Delegates at the Society's Annual PDC in Orlando this summer. The changes affect the requirements for the various membership status and categories, specifically what is required to become a Professional member of the Society. Those who are already Professional members will not be affected, but it is important to note that there is a one-year grace period currently in place until July 2008, to obtain Professional membership status under the old criteria. Once the grace period closes, you will need to abide by the new criteria. For information on the changes follow the links below:

Link to *Society Update* which describes the changes and new criteria in detail -

http://www.asse.org/societyupdate/0708_HOD_Votes.php

Link to reclassify your membership status during the grace period -

<http://www.asse.org/cartpage.php?link=additem&PID=MEMBERRECLASS&QTY>

Fatality Prevention in the Workplace

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Safety Sciences Department, in cooperation with the Alcoa Foundation, will host a national two-day forum to study the nature and cause of fatalities in the workplace. The dates for the forum are November 1-2, 2007 at the Embassy Suites in Coraopolis, PA. This forum will seek to examine key aspects of the complex relationships on the safety and health management system as it relates to hazards that have the potential for fatal consequences. The forum will feature six presenters who are leading authorities on accident prevention, including well-known author Fred Manuele. For more information, contact Jolene Campbell at 724.357.3017 or by email at jolene@iup.edu. Information is also posted on the home page of IUP's website which is www.iup.edu/safetysciences.

Women in Safety Forum

Attention women members – IUP Safety Sciences Department is sponsoring a Women in Safety Forum on the campus on Friday November 16th from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Students from all of the local universities that offer safety degrees will be invited to this free event. Tracey Cekada of IUP is looking for fellow female safety professionals to lead breakout sessions during the day. We all have a story to share. If you can help out, please contact me for more information.

ANSI/ASSE Z359 Fall Protection Code Receives Final Approval

Many ASSE members have inquired about the status of the ANSI/ASSE Z359 Fall Arrest/Protection standards. The United States has not seen a revised or new general industry national consensus standard on fall arrest/protection since the publication of ANSI/ASSE Z359.1-1992 (R1999), but on April 23, 2007, the Z359.2 standard for managed fall protection received final ANSI approval. ASSE is now also pleased to announce that the Z359.0, Z359.1, Z359.3 and Z359.4 standards received final ANSI approval on May 31, 2007. These standards will be available soon and will have an effective date of October 15, 2007. For the full text of this article, [click here](#).

Welcome to New Members – (This section is for welcoming new ASSE-WPA members. Information on new members should be sent to Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson.)

Membership Personal Notes (This section is for ASSE-WPA membership personal notes such as recent promotions, recent certifications, personal achievements, links to articles and papers published by chapter members, etc. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .)

Membership Information

In order to keep our member information up to date, please notify Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson at cwheinlein@acig.com with corrections, deletions, revisions, or additions to member contact information especially the email address. If you know of a member that is not receiving chapter information by email, please let Carl know. Also, questions about chapter membership should be directed to Carl.

National membership questions can be answered, in general, on the ASSE website at <http://www.asse.org/membership/> .

ASSE-WPA Executive Board

Title	Member Name	Email Address
President	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
Vice President	Thad Pajak	Tpajak@ffic.com
Secretary	Scott Keener	Scott.Keener@amwater.com
Treasurer	Doug Noble	dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu
Programs	Fran Sehn	fran.sehn@hrh.com
	Kim Morrison	morrisonkl@upmc.edu
Membership	Carl Heinlein	cwheinlein@acig.com
Foundations	Jim Feeny	birdog704@aol.com
PDC Delegates	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
	Del Kubeldis	delkubeldis@ergsafe.com
Honors & Awards	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
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Webmaster	Barry Gibson	barry.gibson@basf.com
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Social	Josh Shaw	joshshaw@ergsafe.com
Arrangements	Kiena Nutter	disnutt@aol.com
Auditor	Bill Boots	Bill.Boots@hrh.com
Student Section	Nick Kachur	NKachur@nevchem.com
Council on Practices and Standards Representative	Carl Heinlein	cwheinlein@acig.com
Long-Range Planning	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
Special Projects	Cathy Davis	cathdavis1@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Wayne Vanderhoof	wvanderhoof@netzero.net

Feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board with ideas, questions, comments and concerns.

2007-2008 Budget Approved - The Executive Committee has approved the 2007-2008 budget. Last year, for a number of reasons, we spent more than we earned. It wasn't significant and we are working on several initiatives to reduce costs this year, but the Executive Committee and Board Chairs also voted to increase Chapter dues by \$5.00 per year. This dues increase will not take affect until next March and only after approval by the Society. We believe that the small increase more than pays for itself given the programs and services we will be providing this year. It should also be noted that our Chapter has not raised it's dues in over 8 years. Please feel free to call or email an Executive Committee member if you have any questions. Members will be notified of the dues increase via email as soon as it is approved.

Student Section Sponsorship Opportunities – The Executive Committee and Chairs this year are working to develop linkages and outreach with two Student Sections at IUP and Slippery Rock. The current policy is to allow Student Section members from either school attend our monthly technical meetings for free. The chapter absorbs this cost in our operating budget. You can help the chapter by sponsoring a student or two and pay their meeting fee. If you or your company would be willing to do this, please get in touch with Nick Kachur at nkachur@nevchem.com.

General Safety Articles (This section is for links to articles published by ASSE-WPA members. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net.)

Coast Guard Auxiliary offers safe boating tips for fall and winter”

Submitted by Dave Zazac Public Affairs, Flotilla 7-8, 412-881-4037

As the leaves begin to change and the weather turns colder, many boaters are thinking about winterizing their boats and making storage plans. But some aren't ready to pull their boats out of the water just yet. Boating in the winter months can be enjoyable for many reasons: less boat traffic, calmer waters, and the chance to catch some big fish.

If you plan to be out on the water this winter, it's important to be aware of the dangers associated with lower water levels. Know the area where you are boating, especially the bottom topography. Many reservoirs have areas that go from 30 feet of water to two feet of water in a short distance. By staying in the main channel and areas that you know well, you can keep from grounding your boat. If you are going into an unfamiliar area, be extra careful. Drive slowly and watch your depth finder.

It's also a good idea to check the water level at your favorite boat ramp to make sure it's usable at winter elevations. You could damage your trailer or boat by backing off a ramp that doesn't extend far enough into the water.

Because there are fewer boaters on the water during winter months, it can be more difficult to get assistance from another boater in case of an emergency. Carry a cell phone or a marine radio. Let friends know where you're going and when you're expected back.

Finally, be prepared in case you fall into the water or have a boating accident. Never boat alone, and always wear a life jacket. Not only can a life jacket save your life if you are knocked unconscious, it also allows you to stay afloat and can help ward off hypothermia, a serious, life-threatening condition. Always dress for the water, not for the boat. Dress in layers, since each layer traps another pocket of air to help insulate your body and hold in heat, and be sure to take along extra clothes in case you get wet. For more information on boating responsibly, go to www.USCGboating.org or www.VesselSafetyCheck.org.

Other Societies Event (In cooperation with other professional organizations, this section, at the discretion of the Executive Board, may be utilized to list events from other organizations such as, but not limited to, the ABIH, ACHMM, RIMS, CPCU, etc. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .)

Job Openings – Local (This section is to list any local job openings in the safety fields for membership. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .) Positions can be viewed on the chapter web site on the [Job Page](#).

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Thank you,
Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS