

# American Society of Safety Engineers -Western PA Chapter



## The President's Message

<b>December 2007</b>	
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The first half of my term as your Chapter President is over. I'm sure you think that I am about to say something about how fast it went, so maybe I won't. But I can't resist looking back at what we have done this year...and giving you a sneak peak at what is to come.

Our technical programs this fall were a real cornucopia of topics ranging from a tour of a radio/television station to hearing about an effective safety management system to planning for emergencies of various types from chemical hazards, natural disasters and pandemics. One of our meetings involved a trek out to meet with the members of our sponsored Student Section at IUP. In addition to these great shorter meetings, we successfully partnered again with Shannon Safety in offering a day-long PDC that was attended by over 250 people who are involved in the practice of safety at some level.

And just as importantly, in addition to the programs we were directly responsible for providing, we worked closely to support and promote several other local offerings, including the IUP Safety Sciences Department's 2-day Fatality Investigation event; the one-day Women in the Safety Profession seminar (where I had the honor of being the keynote speaker); and the day-long Focus4Hazards seminars jointly sponsored by the Master Builder's Association and the Contractor's Association of Western Pennsylvania.

We wrapped up the year with our annual Holiday Luncheon at Churchill Valley Country Club attended by over 40 Chapter members old and new and exchanged jokes, stories and prizes.

But we don't plan to rest on our laurels and promise you a stellar second half. Already we have begun to take reservations for our January monthly meeting at the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium where we will hear about a different perspective on the practice of safety. We are also planning a meeting on at least one of the new or revised regulations recently issued by OSHA and are trying to land a highly regarded pair of local experts in Root Cause Analysis. March will be our annual joint meeting with AIHA and is currently expected to be a tour of the NIOSH facility in Morgantown, West Virginia. While we are traveling, we hope to head out to visit with the members of our other Student Section at Slippery Rock University for our April meeting.

And finally, as we wrapped up the first half of the year with a social event, we'll finish up this year with our annual Awards Dinner in May honoring those with longstanding Chapter membership.

Although it may sound like the second half is a wrap, we still have some room to adjust and change so if you have an idea for a topic or a specific speaker on a topic, please let us know. We can gauge the interest and if it seems like a good match, we can follow up, if not this year then next.

I hope that this final President's Message for 2007 finds that you had a professionally satisfying and personally meaningful year and look forward to continuing to serve you in 2008.

Pam Ferrante, CSP, CHMM  
Western PA President  
[pam@jcsafety.com](mailto:pam@jcsafety.com)  
412.414.4769

# Chapter Events Calendar

**January 18<sup>th</sup> – Polar Bear Exhibit Hall, Pittsburgh Zoo, 11:30am to 1:00pm**

More information is forthcoming.

## **“Thank You” to our Vendors**

We would like to thank the vendors that supported our door prize raffle at the Christmas luncheon by donating items. They are listed below:

BASF  
Bill Boots  
Fireman's Fund  
HRH  
Industrial Scientific  
Miller Safety  
North Safety Products  
Pennsylvania American Water Company  
Port Authority of Allegheny County  
Safety-Kleen (West Mifflin)  
Work America

**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](mailto:nkachur@nevchem.com).

# Government Affairs Update

Contributed by Stive Tima

## **OSHA issues final PPE Rule**

OSHA issued a final PPE Rule on November 14, 2007 detailing when employers must pay for personal protective equipment used by employees. This rule shall become effective on February 13, 2008. Employers must implement the PPE payment requirements no later than May 15, 2008. Any challenges to the Final Rule must be made by January 14, 2008.

See the link below for details and explanations.

<http://www.asse.org/professionalaaffairs/govtaffairs/gaupdate/?issue=2007-11-13&article=719>

## **ASSE Looking for Member Views of California Ergo Standard**

ASSE is looking for some input from its members on how the California ergonomics standard works in practical terms. At a time when a highly proscriptive regulatory approach to ergonomics was in play politically, ASSE went on record using the California standard as an example of how its own position on ergonomics, which can be found at

<http://www.asse.org/professionalaaffairs/govtaffairs/ergonomicsfinal0406.php>, has generally worked. If you have any thoughts on how the standard works day to day, please share them with Dave Heidorn at [dheidorn@asse.org](mailto:dheidorn@asse.org). Your comments may be compiled but will be shared anonymously.

**BLS Releases '06 Injury Illness Data - <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/osh2.nr0.htm>**

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) provides detailed information on the continued decline in the rate and the number of workplace injuries and illnesses in private industry that required recovery away from work. The report shows that, from 2005 to 2006, there was a six percent reduction in the rate of lost time injuries and illnesses, as well as a four percent reduction in the overall number of those injuries and illnesses, both of which represent significant improvements. New data is also available on selected injury and illness rates by occupation, gender and age group.

**DHS Publishes Chemicals of Interest List for Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS)**

On November 2, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released Appendix A of the (CFATS). It is a final list of 300 chemicals that, if a facility possesses in certain quantities, triggers a requirement to complete and submit an easy-to-use, online consequence assessment tool known as Top Screen. DHS will use the Top Screens to determine whether the facility should be regulated as a high-level risk and whether it will be required to comply with the substantive requirements of CFATS.

**Fact Sheet: Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards: Appendix A**

[http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1193971307036.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1193971307036.shtm)

**OSHA, FDA, CDC and EPA Warn of Medical Equipment Risks**

The FDA, CDC, EPA and OSHA joined together to release a Public Health Notification warning of the hazards of using excess cleaning and disinfecting liquids on certain electronic medical equipment and recommending ways to avoid the hazards. The problems included equipment fires and other damage, equipment malfunctions, and healthcare worker burns. The equipment malfunctions could result in life-threatening events to patients such as over-infusion of medications, loss of life-supporting drug therapy, and loss of patient ventilation. The notification can be found with specific information from each of the agencies at <http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/safety/103107-cleaners.html>

**FMCSA on Calculating Crash Rates and HazMat Out-of-Service Rates**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration may not issue a hazardous materials safety permit to a motor carrier that has a crash rate, driver, vehicle or hazardous material out-of-service rate in the top 30 percent of the national average. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has published its policy on calculating motor carrier crash rates, and driver, vehicle, and hazardous material out-of-service rates that represent the top 30 percent of the national average as indicated in the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS).

**NIOSH Science Blog**

Check out NIOSH's Science Blog, its most recent tool for sharing NIOSH research and communicating with its stakeholders. If you haven't already visited the blog, take a look at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/blog/>. Some topics posted to date are Stress at Work, Preventing Firefighter Deaths from Cardiovascular events and Truck Driver Safety and Health.

**EPA Direct Final Rule on Refrigerant Recovery/Recycling Equipment Standards**

The EPA is taking direct final action on revisions to its motor vehicle refrigerant recovery and recycling equipment standards. To avoid confusion with an outdated reference, EPA is updating its reference to the new SAE standards. SAE has replaced Standard J2210 with J2788, Recovery/Recycle and Recovery/Recycle/Recharging Equipment for HFC-134a Refrigerant. EPA states that this action reflects a change in industry standard practice. It also revises the EPA addresses to send equipment certification forms. This rule is effective on December 31, 2007.

# 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](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>

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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 2008 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Below are the final candidates for the 2008 ASSE election:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominated Candidate</u>
PRESIDENT:	Warren K. Brown, CSP, ARM, CSHM
PRESIDENT-ELECT:	C. Christopher Patton, CSP
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Darryl C. Hill, CSP Terrie S. Norris, CSP, ARM, CPSI

Office

Nominated Candidate

VICE PRESIDENT- FINANCE:

Frederick A. Miller, CSP  
James D. Smith, M.S., CSP

VICE PRESIDENT –  
PRACTICES & STANDARDS:

Jeffery C. Camplin, CSP, CPEA  
George W. Pearson, CSP, ARM

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS & AREA DIRECTORS

Region II	Regional Vice President	James G. Gallup, P.E., CSP (unopposed)
	Area Director - Area A	Harold L. Gribow, MS, CSP, ARM (unopposed)
Region IV	Regional Vice President	Michael Belcher, CSP Frank J. Lakotich, CSP
	Area Directors:	
	Mississippi Alabama Area	R. Steven Willis, CSP (unopposed)
	North Florida/Georgia Area	Pamela B. Perrich, CIH (unopposed)
Region VI	Regional Vice President	James H. Morris, III (unopposed)
Region VIII	Regional Vice President	Robert E. McClay, CSP Eric M. Stager, CSP, OHST
	Area Directors:	
	Empire State Area	Arthur J. Dube, OHST (unopposed)
	New England Area	No Candidate

Information on candidates will appear in the February issue of *Professional Safety*. Ballots will be mailed on March 1st and must be received by March 31, 2008.

From our chapter and Region VIII, Robert (Bob) E. McClay is a candidate for the Regional Vice President.

# ASSE-WPA Executive Board

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

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

**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](mailto:wvanderhoof@netzero.net) .)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:wvanderhoof@netzero.net) .) Positions can be viewed on the chapter web site on the [Job Page](#).

**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](mailto:wvanderhoof@netzero.net) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,  
Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS