

American Society of Safety Engineers -Western PA Chapter



The President's Message

March 2008	
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March Madness is upon us. By the time you read this, the Final Four will be chosen and ready to play. And hopefully by the time you read this, we will be finished for good with the winter snows. The Chapter year is beginning to wind down and we are finalizing the details for our last monthly technical meeting in April. We hope that you will take the time to join us as we travel to the Slippery Rock Area to meet up with the Student Chapter at Slippery Rock University on April 15th. Several fellow Chapter members will be assembling for a panel to discuss hot trends, emerging issues and give general career advice to the students at SRU. This meeting is your chance to bring someone along behind you who can advance our profession in the future.

Spring is also the time for the annual Society elections. This year we are electing several national offices for the Society. They include Senior Vice President (This is the position that succeeds the President); Vice President of Finance; and Vice President for Council on Practices and Standards (COPS). In addition to the National Offices up for election, we are also electing a Regional Vice President for our Region (VIII) to succeed Steve Kane. There are two candidates for this important position.

I encourage all of you to take the time to vote. Even if you are not involved in matters at the Society level, this group of people will be deciding issues that do impact you directly. In addition, our Regional Vice President is required to approve any large purchase the Chapter wants to make. Some recent examples: earlier this year we made you aware of changes in the requirements for applying for the Professional level membership in the Society and our Chapter was recently required to incorporate as part of a Society mandate.

Position statements and bibliographies are available as well as the ability to cast your vote at the following link:

<http://www.asse.org/elections/>

Voting ends on March 31st at 5:00 PM.

Finally, don't forget to register for the annual PDC which is being held in Las Vegas this year. The conference begins on Monday June 9th and runs through Thursday June 12th. Sessions, seminars, special events and travel information is available online at: <http://www.asse.org/education/pdc08/>

Be Safe!
Pam Ferrante, CSP, CHMM
President

Chapter Events Calendar

March 22, 2008

Please join us Tuesday March 25th at the Airport Marriott (same place as our February meeting) for a dinner meeting. Registration will begin at 5:30pm with dinner at 6:00pm. Mr. Paul Bowman from Bayer Corporation will make a presentation on Root Cause Analysis.

April 15, 2008

The last Executive Committee/Board Chairs meeting for the Chapter year will take place at 4:00pm. There are a couple of major decisions to be made and your input is welcome. There is no need to RSVP for the Executive Session, just show up.

The regular monthly meeting will be held after the Executive Session. It is in cooperation with the Student Chapter at Slippery Rock University and will be held at the Springfield Grill in Mercer, PA, (http://www.springfields.com/sgm_files/sgmercercer.html). Registration begins at 5:30pm. The Student Section Chair Nick Kachur has put together a panel of Chapter members who will speak on numerous issues and provide some contemporary career advice for the students. Please RSVP at 412.281.1885, the chapter hotline.

To help offset the costs to the Chapter, we ask that members sponsor (or have your company sponsor) a student or two. If you are able to do so, please let Nick Kachur know - NKachur@nevchem.com.

April 19, 2008

Our annual community service project for the Boy Scouts of performing a safety inspection at their camp in Uniontown is being coordinating by Fran Sehn again this year. It's a fun day in the woods and a real celebration of the start of spring. If you would like to ask any questions or volunteer to help, you can email Fran at Fran.Sehn@HRH.com.

May 15, 2008

The annual awards dinner is planned for Thursday May 15th at the Library on Carson Street on the South Side. More details to follow.

June 9-12, 2008

Registration is now open for the Society's Professional Development Conference to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Follow this link to the main registration page. Several of our Chapter members will be presenting again this year. <http://www.asse.org/education/pdc08/>

Future Program Ideas

It's not too soon to begin thinking about topics for future program, so please give it some thought and let us know what you are interested in hearing about or provide us with ideas of speakers you have heard that you think would make for a good monthly meeting.

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.

Government Affairs Update

Contributed by Steve Tima

Maintenance First' Hotline Ready for Pothole Season

The winter freeze-thaw cycle causes potholes to “bloom” every spring. Motorists should report potholes on state roads to PennDOT’s toll-free Maintenance First Hotline at 1-800-FIX-ROAD (1-800-349-7623). Callers should be as specific as possible when providing locations of maintenance concerns on state roads. Don’t use the hotline to report an accident or an emergency; you should dial 911.

Local News and Events

Chapter Elections

The Nominating Committee this year is composed of Del Kubeldis, Fran Sehn and Scott Keener. They have been tasked with developing a slate of candidates for you to vote on for the upcoming Chapter year. Elections are usually held in the spring for the following Chapter year which runs from July to June. At the moment our biggest gap is that of Vice President. This position serves for one year and then ascends to President the following year. We have structured it this way so that anyone who has an interest in becoming President but does not think he/she can take on the task because they don’t understand what is involved will have a year of “apprenticeship” so to speak. It is also important to note that a President does not function in a vacuum. If you think you might be interested in a Board position next year, please take the time to contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee. They will be happy to answer your questions.

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/societupdate/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>

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY OFFERS BOAT SAFETY COURSE

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 7-8, is offering America’s Boating Course on Saturday, April 26, at the Craftonian Hall, 48 Division Street, Crafton from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost for the course is \$30 and includes lunch.

The boat and water safety course topics include:

- Boating Law: boat registration; boating regulation; hull identification number; required boat safety equipment; operating safely and reporting accidents; protecting the marine environment; Federal boat law; state boating laws; personal watercraft requirements.
- Boat Safety Equipment: personal flotation devices ("life jackets"); fire extinguishers; sound-producing devices; visual-distress signals; dock lines and rope; first aid kit; anchors and anchor lines; other boating safety equipment.

- Safe Boating: bow riding; alcohol and drug abuse; entering, loading, and trimming a boat; fueling portable and permanent tanks; steering with a tiller and a wheel; docking, undocking and mooring; knots; filing a float plan; checking equipment, fuel, weather and tides; using charts; choosing and using an anchor; safe Personal Water Craft handling; general water safety.
- Navigation: the U.S. Aids to Navigation system; types of buoys and beacons; navigation rules (sometimes referred to as right-of-way rules); avoiding collisions; sound signals; Personal Water Craft "tunnel vision."

Many boat insurance companies will offer discounts on boating insurance to boaters who successfully complete America's Boating Course. This beginner boating class will give you the knowledge needed to obtain a boat license or safety certification in many states, including Pennsylvania. America's Boating Course is a joint project between the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons.

For more information, please contact course instructor Mr. James Feeny at 412-269-1892.

20,000th Certified Safety Professional (CSP)

We celebrated an achievement for a fellow Chapter member, Jason Malatak, Director of Risk Management from Mosites Corporation, as he was honored as the 20,000th person to be awarded the CSP designation. The achievement was bestowed at the February meeting of the ASSE-Western PA chapter of the ASSE.



Left to right: Carl Heinlein, Membership Chair, Jason Malatak, and Bill Boots, Chapter Auditor. Jason Malatak is holding the award with Paul Adams - President of the BCSP.



The pictures above show Jason Malatak addressing the group and Jason with his daughter. In the photo at the far right is Paul Adams - President of the BCSP, Pam Ferrante – Chapter President, Jason Malatak, Ken Walker – ASSE Region 8 Area Director, and Roger Brauer - Executive Director of BCSP.

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 wayne@rjrsafety.com .)

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
	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
PDC Delegates	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
	Del Kubeldis	del.kubeldis@willis.com
Honors & Awards	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
By-Laws	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
Webmaster	Barry Gibson	barry.gibson@basf.com
Government Affairs	Steve Tima	stima@portauthority.org
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	wayne@rjrsafety.com

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 wayne@rjrsafety.com .)

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. Please send related information to this editor at wayne@rjrsafety.com).

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 wayne@rjrsafety.com .) 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 wayne@rjrsafety.com by the 15th of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,

Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS