

# American Society of Safety Engineers -Western PA Chapter



## The President's Message

Hello,

I am Thad Pajak, and I am the incoming President for our Western PA chapter of ASSE. I am pleased and honored to be your President. I hope to continue the fine work of our past presidents in promoting safety and providing services to our members. I want to recognize Pam Ferrante, 07-08 WPA ASSE President for her excellent work, organizational skills, and dedication to making our chapter one of the best in the country. Pam is continuing her service to the chapter as this year's webmaster. See our new website: <http://www.wpa-asse.com/>. Thanks Pam!!! In the weeks I have been doing this gig, I can see there is quite a bit of work involved.

**Chapter Activities and Events:** In the next few weeks you will be receiving a member survey asking you questions about what your wants and expectations are from the WPA chapter. Please take a few minutes from your work day to complete the survey. We appreciate your feedback.

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### Upcoming Meetings:

September: We will have a September meeting! It is on 9/11 in the afternoon, and is a tunnel tour of the new tunnel under construction connecting downtown Pittsburgh to the North Shore. Space is limited to 20 people; however, we will also have a dinner afterwards where more people can be accommodated. Possibly a Q and A session as well. See website for an official announcement of the tour and our meeting place afterwards. Thanks to Steve Tima for setting this tour up that will be extremely interesting.

October and November: I want to thank two chapter members, Bill Santa and Bob Slack for stepping up and volunteering their time and expertise, and will host our October and November meetings respectively. The October meeting will be on October 2. Bill Santa and Kennywood Park will host the October meeting from 4-6 PM, and the topic is the unique challenges and procedures established to address **fall protection** for park employees, and includes a tour of the park. . BYOP, (Bring your own pumpkin).

Bob Slack is with Alcoa and will host the November 6, 4-6 PM meeting on hand injury prevention. This will be a real life presentation on what Alcoa did to identify, track, and the interventions put into play from a Corporate and Group level, and tools created to help **reduce and prevent hand/finger injuries**. Both of the October and November meetings are planned to be two hour sessions. We will let you know if we can offer CEUs for these two meetings. See our website for additional information. Get your registration in early. Seating will be limited.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Do you have a safety success story to share? Do you have a special skill? How about expertise in one of the safety and health specialty areas such as product safety, public health, sprinkler systems, fleet safety, machine guarding, ergonomics, construction safety etc...? What about any expertise on "violence in the work place? If you do, we would love to hear from you to either contribute to our newsletter or be a speaker at an upcoming meeting. Wayne Vanderhoof ([wayne@rjrsafety.com](mailto:wayne@rjrsafety.com)) is our newsletter editor, if you want to contribute to our newsletter, please contact Wayne. Gary Gillespie and Gene Mattis ([ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com](mailto:ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com), [gene\\_mattis@pmagroup.com](mailto:gene_mattis@pmagroup.com)) are our programs chairpersons. Please contact them if you would like to be a speaker.

Don't be bashful. We can all benefit from your expertise and we would be looking for speakers @ one of our upcoming one-day seminars. Read below.

**2009 and beyond:** There are already plans for a one day construction seminar in February, and a one day Spring-time seminar. Details and topics will be available from WPAASSE as more specifics materialize.

Some other items we are focusing on are participating in career fairs to promote the safety profession to high school students, and possibly safety training for high school students. Do you have a volunteer idea that is safety related? If you do please let us know so that we can best help our members, and share and promote our safety mission.

Thad Pajak  
President

## Chapter Events Calendar

### September 11, 2008

Tour the new tunnel currently under construction connecting downtown Pittsburgh to the North Shore. Space for the tour is limited to 20 people. Dinner will be at the Clark Bar & Grill at 6:00 pm.

### October 2, 2008; 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Bill Santa and Kennywood Park will host the meeting. The topic is the unique challenges of fall protection for park employees and the procedures established to address fall protection issues, and includes a tour of the park. We will let you know if we can offer CEUs for this meeting. See our website for additional information. Get your registration in early. Seating will be limited.

### November 6, 2008; 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Bob Slack is with Alcoa and will host the meeting on hand injury prevention. This will be a real life presentation on what Alcoa did to identify, track, and the interventions put into play from a Corporate and Group level, and tools created to help reduce and prevent hand/finger injuries. We will let you know if we can offer CEUs for this meeting. See our website for additional information. Get your registration in early. Seating will be limited.

### February, 2009 (date TBD) (see

A Construction Safety Seminar is being planned along with a job site visit to the arena construction project site for February, 2009. Topics will include:

OSHA Construction Update

Crane Safety

Work Zone Safety

Electrical Safety

The speakers are TBD

Even though plans are not finalized, some information is available and very tentative. It will be finalized and communicated as soon as possible. Tentatively, the seminar will begin with registration at 7:30 AM and conclude at 3:30 PM and include a Continental breakfast and light lunch, it will be limited to 100 attendees. CEU's are anticipated. The date is trying to be arranged for Friday February the 20<sup>th</sup> with the speakers TBD. Vendor sponsors are welcome. There could be space for vendor exhibition booths. The speakers and sessions will last approximately 45 to 60 minutes and allow time for attendees to visit vendors' booth in the morning, at lunch and before and after the tour. The anticipated cost would be around \$75.00 for the day. We have \$1000.00 in the budget for this project. Assistance is needed with lining up the speakers and finalizing plans. Contact Fran Sehn or Carl Heinlein.

### 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 Sponsors

Students enrolled in Safety Sciences are the future of our profession. The Executive Committee and Chairs are continuing the effort to develop linkages and outreach with the 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).

## Chapter Elections

The voting for next year's Chapter Officers and Delegates is now over and the proposed slate was unanimously approved. Thank you to all of you who took the time to vote. Thank you also to those Chapter members who agreed to take on major leadership positions with our organization. We cannot continue to grow and thrive without good succession planning and I believe we are in good hands for next year. Please consider how you can get more involved in the work of the Chapter. Please reach out to our incoming President and Vice President. Your assistance will be welcomed and appreciated.

The elected Officers and Delegates for the 2008-2009 Chapter Year:

President – Thad Pajak  
Vice President – Kim Morrison  
Treasurer – Doug Noble  
Secretary – Kiena Nutter  
Delegate – Pam Ferrante  
Delegate – Rick Schultz  
Delegate – Fran Sehn

## Government Affairs Update

Contributed by Stive Tima

### ASSE Offers Support to Acting NIOSH Director Christine Branche

ASSE offered its support to recently appointed Acting NIOSH Director Christine Branche as she takes on responsibility for leading NIOSH. In its letter to Dr. Branche, ASSE said that much has been achieved to bring closer together NIOSH research and the practice of our members and that the Society's commitment is to see that this cooperative effort continues, especially in ensuring that the growing demand for safety training and advanced education is adequately supported by NIOSH.

### Attend NOIRS in October

ASSE encourages its members to attend this year's NIOSH National Occupational Injury Research Symposium (NOIRS) **October 21-23 in Pittsburgh**. This event is the prime gathering of safety researchers focusing on research for the prevention of work-related traumatic injuries. According to NIOSH, the symposium will consist of contributed oral presentations in concurrent sessions and poster presentations. This is the fourth National Occupational Injury Research Symposium (NOIRS). More information on NOIRS can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/Niosh/noirs/2008/default.html>.

### NIOSH Seeks Comment on Revised Draft Roadmap for Asbestos Research

NIOSH has made available for comment a revised draft of its document "Asbestos Fibers and Other Elongated Mineral Particles: State of the Science and Roadmap for Research." The document and instructions for submitting comments can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/review/public/099-A/>. The public comment period ends September 30, 2008.

**ASSE's May 2007 comment on the previous draft Roadmap** can be found at <http://www.asse.org/professionalaaffairs/docs/053007NIOSHAsbestos.doc>.

The draft Roadmap's purpose is to outline major areas of controversy and to recommend a research agenda that can serve as a guide for the development of specific research programs within and across disciplines. The intended goal is to provide answers to current scientific questions, reduce scientific uncertainties, and provide a sound scientific foundation for future policy development so that optimal health protection can be assured. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-16946.htm>

### **Final Rule on NESHAP for Semiconductor Manufacturing**

EPA has issued amendments to the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) for semiconductor manufacturing. These amendments establish a new maximum achievable control technology floor level of control for existing and new combined hazardous air pollutants process vent streams containing inorganic and organic hazardous air pollutants and clarify the emission requirements for process vents by adding definitions for organic, inorganic, and combined hazardous air pollutant process vent streams that contain both organic and inorganic hazardous air pollutant. The final rule was effective July 22, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-16746.htm>

### **EPA Revises Dry Cleaner Perchloroethylene Standards Rulemaking**

EPA has published a direct final rule and parallel proposal on April 1, 2008, to amend revisions to the national perchloroethylene air emission standards for dry cleaning facilities that it promulgated in July 2006. Because EPA received adverse comment, EPA is withdrawing the direct final rule and taking final action on the proposed rule to reflect its response to the comments. This final rule revision is effective July 11, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-15872.htm>

### **OSHA Seeks Paperwork Comments on Coke Oven Emissions Standard**

OSHA seeks comments on its proposal to extend OMB approval of paperwork requirements of its Coke Oven Emissions Standard (29 CFR 1910.1029). Comments are due September 9, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-15769.htm>

### **OSHA Seeks Paperwork Comments on Servicing Rim Wheels**

OSHA seeks comments on its proposal to extend OMB approval of paperwork requirements of its Standard on Servicing Multi-Piece and Single Piece Rim Wheels (29 CFR 1910.177). The paperwork provisions of the Standard include a requirement that the manufacturer or a Registered Professional Engineer certify that repaired restraining devices and barriers meet the strength requirements specified in the Standard, and a requirement that defective wheels and wheel components be marked or tagged. Comments are due October 3, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-17753.htm>

### **EPA Guidelines for Metal/Plastic/Auto Coatings, Fiberglass Boat Materials, Adhesives**

EPA has proposed to determine that control techniques guidelines will be substantially as effective as national regulations in reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds in ozone national ambient air quality standard non-attainment areas from the following five product categories: miscellaneous metal products coatings, plastic parts coatings, auto and light-duty truck assembly coatings, fiberglass boat manufacturing materials, and miscellaneous industrial adhesives. Comments are due August 13, 2008, unless a public hearing is requested by July 24, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-15722.htm>

### **NESHAP for Nine Metal Fabrication and Finishing Source Categories**

EPA has issued national emission standards for control of hazardous air pollutants for nine metal fabrication and finishing area source categories. The final rule establishes emission standards in the form of management practices and equipment standards for new and existing operations of dry abrasive blasting, machining, dry grinding and dry polishing with machines, spray painting and other spray coating, and welding operations. The standards reflect EPA's determination regarding the generally achievable control technology and/or management practices for the nine area source categories. The final rule was effective July 23, 2008. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-16263.htm>

### **FHWA regulation for Worker Visibility**

A new Federal Highway Administration regulation was recently promulgated that adds Part 634 - Worker Visibility to Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations. November 24, 2008 is the compliance date by which all workers within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway who are exposed either to traffic or to construction equipment within the work area shall wear high-visibility safety apparel that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 publication entitled "American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear." Check Federal Register, Vol. 71, No. 226 / Friday, November 24, 2006.

*Please note:* the ANSI Standard is not finalized yet, but is referenced in Part 634.

## **Local News and Events**

This section is for news and events of local importance and should be forwarded to the newsletter editor for inclusion.

## **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.

### **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-WPA Executive Board

Title	Member Name	Email Address
President	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>
Vice President	Kim Morrison,	<a href="mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.com">morrisonkl@upmc.com</a>
Treasurer	Doug Noble	<a href="mailto:dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu">dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Secretary	Kiena Nutter	<a href="mailto:disnutt@aol.com">disnutt@aol.com</a>
Programs	Gene Mattis	<a href="mailto:gene_mattis@pmagroup.com">gene_mattis@pmagroup.com</a>
Programs	Gary Gillespie	<a href="mailto:ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com">ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com</a>
Special Projects	Fran Sehn	<a href="mailto:fran.sehn@hrh.com">fran.sehn@hrh.com</a>
Special Projects	Cathy Davis	<a href="mailto:cathdavis1@comcast.net">cathdavis1@comcast.net</a>
Webmaster	Pam Ferrante	<a href="mailto:pam@jcsafety.com">pam@jcsafety.com</a>
Government Affairs	Steve Tima	<a href="mailto:stima@portauthority.org">stima@portauthority.org</a>
Long Range Planning	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
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Public Affairs	Nick Kuntz	<a href="mailto:nkuntz@hdhgroup.com">nkuntz@hdhgroup.com</a>
Membership	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Student Section	Nick Kachur	<a href="mailto:nkachur@nevchem.com">nkachur@nevchem.com</a>
Arrangements	Mark Barch	<a href="mailto:mbarch@ffic.com">mbarch@ffic.com</a>
By-Laws	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Honors and Awards	Scott Keener	<a href="mailto:skeener@pawc.com">skeener@pawc.com</a>
Auditor	Bill Boots	<a href="mailto:bill.boots@hrh.com">bill.boots@hrh.com</a>
Foundations	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>
PDC Delegate	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
PDC Delegate	Fran Sehn	<a href="mailto:fran.sehn@hrh.com">fran.sehn@hrh.com</a>
PDC Delegate	Pam Ferrante	<a href="mailto:pam@jcsafety.com">pam@jcsafety.com</a>
Council on Practices and Standards Representative	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Social (Holiday Party)	Pam Ferrante	<a href="mailto:pam@jcsafety.com">pam@jcsafety.com</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.

## 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.

## Job Openings – Local

This section is to list any local job openings in the safety fields for membership. Positions can also 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](mailto:wayne@rjrsafety.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,  
Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS