

# American Society of Safety Engineers -Western PA Chapter



## A Message from the President

<b>September 2009</b>	
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Isn't this a great profession! Safety Health and Environmental professionals save lives every day. At the 2008 Leadership Conference Warren Brown, 2008-2009 President, posed a question to the audience and asked each person to look within and ask "are you in a position that plays to your strengths everyday?" We are so fortunate to be able to make use of all of our skills to influence people in ways that grow our programs, help others engage in safe behavior and apply our technical skills to problem solve. Life is funny when as kids we were told to get along with others of course not knowing where that lesson would take us. In our profession the ability to effectively collaborate can be the difference in growing the kind of culture we all want – where we have that observable degree of effort made by all staff toward improving safety on a daily basis. We all know how important it is to continuously develop our skills. Before the calendar year is out we will be providing a Chapter meeting on the topic of the importance of collaboration. Our speaker is Candi Castleberry-Singleton who has presented nationally on the topic.

Our October meeting will be focused on Fire Safety – Life Safety and a reminder that National Fire Prevention Week is October 4 -10, 2009. The November meeting topic is "The affects of an accident on an individual." Stay tuned for meeting details.

In the past month I have received several messages from members discussing the fact that it is getting harder to have their employer pay for their ASSE membership. If that is true for you I encourage you to go to the ASSE web site at [www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org) to get the facts to prepare for your request. On the home page at the top left is the "Membership" area. Click on this to find the section titled "Benefits." This will detail that your membership to ASSE provides you with support in the areas of **Professionalism, Influence, Personal Service, Technical Resources and Career Development**. We have placed the summary page within this newsletter. Take the time to visit the ASSE web site and you will quickly get a sense of all of the value that your membership provides.

It is also getting harder to find funding for Professional Development. ASSE is here to help with that too. This months Chapter Services update gave information on the ASSE Foundation Professional Development Grant Program. The ASSE Foundation is pleased to announce the 2010 Scholarship & Professional Development Grant Program available to students pursuing degrees in occupational safety, health and the environment and to safety professionals wishing to advance their professional credentials in SH&E. This year the Foundation is offering over \$100,000 in scholarships and grants. To apply for a professional development grant visit [http://www.asse.org/foundation/pro\\_grants/grants.php](http://www.asse.org/foundation/pro_grants/grants.php)

Applications are due December 1, 2009 and awards will be announced on the Foundation’s website on or around April 1, 2010.

That is all for now - Hope to see or talk to you soon.  
Be proud of the work you do.

Kim Morrison, President, WPA – ASSE  
[morrisonkl@upmc.edu](mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.edu)  
412-473-7432

## **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE from the Chapter President**

Did you know that the Western Pennsylvania Chapter includes members from 13 counties? That fact surprises some people.

The help we need is this: Please look at the following counties and email me with the name of an eating establishment, educational facility, etc. where we can hold a meet and greet in that county. We want to get out to each county this Chapter Year – so please consider helping us out.

**Armstrong, Beaver, Clearfield, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence, Somerset, Westmoreland, Washington**

(Allegheny, Butler, Indiana round out the thirteen but we meet in these counties at least once per year or more)

Please send email to [morrisonkl@upmc.edu](mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.edu). THANK YOU.

## **Chapter Events Calendar**

### **October**

The topic is Fire Safety-Life Safety. Details are forthcoming.

### **November**

The topic is the affects of an accident on an individual. Details are forthcoming.

### **Future Program Ideas**

It's not too soon to begin thinking about topics for future programs, 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).

## **Government Affairs Update**

Contributed by Steve Tima

### **David Michaels Nominated to Lead OSHA**

As long expected, the Obama Administration nominated David Michaels to lead OSHA. If confirmed, current Acting Assistant Secretary Barab will move to his Deputy Assistant Secretary position to which he was named earlier. Dr. Michaels has been a professor at George Washington University.

### **55 MPH Saves Lives, Study Says**

The following article is from OH&S Online and can be found at <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2009/07/20/study-finds-speed-control-law-repeal-costs-lives.aspx>. Study Finds Speed Control Law Repeal Costs Lives  
The repeal of the federal speed control law in 1995 has resulted in an increase in road fatalities and injuries, according to researchers at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health. The research--published in the September issue of the American Journal of Public Health--is a long-term study to evaluate the impact of repealing the National Maximum Speed Law on road fatalities and injuries in fatal crashes between 1995 and 2005. According to the study, the law, which restricted the maximum speed limit to 55 mph on all interstate roads in the United States, was

initiated in 1974 in response to the oil embargo and had an immediate impact.

"During the first year there was a drop of almost 17 percent in fatalities after the speed laws were reduced to 55 miles per hour," said Lee Friedman, assistant research professor of environmental and occupational health sciences at UIC and lead author of the study.

### **You, Too, Can Apply to Direct NIOSH**

In a curious move, the position of Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) was unexpectedly posted on usajobs.gov, the government's job resource. How this affects the individuals widely thought to be possibly considered for the position – former Director John Howard, current Acting Director Christine Branche, and current NIOSH division director Greg Wagner, whose wife was a leader in the Obama transition team's examination of OSHA – no one seems to know. Interested in the job? Go to <http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?>

### **OSHA Announces Review of VPP**

OSHA will address problems identified in its Voluntary Protection Programs in response ([http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=18065](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=18065)) to a new Government Accountability Office report, ""OSHA's Voluntary Protection Programs: Improved Oversight and Controls Would Better Ensure Program Quality."" The report recommends improved oversight and additional controls to ensure participating companies maintain effective workplace safety and health management systems. OSHA will also conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its VPP and Alliance Program to determine how the agency should best allocate its resources among cooperative programs, enforcement and other agency activities.

### **EPA Revisions of Lead Renovation, Repair, Painting Program**

EPA has issued a final rule making what it deems are two minor revisions to its final Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program (RRP) rule published in the April 22, 2008 Federal Register. First, this final rule requires accredited providers of renovator or dust sampling technician training to submit post-course notifications, including digital photographs of each successful trainee, to EPA. This requirement was inadvertently omitted from the final rule's regulatory text. Also, this final rule removes the requirement that accredited lead-based paint activities training providers submit to EPA a digital photograph of each successful trainee along with their post-course notifications. That requirement was inadvertently imposed as part of the final rule and is unnecessary because EPA already receives photographs of these individuals through other means. This final rule is effective July 15, 2009.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16814.htm>

### **CSB Releases New Safety Video "Combustible Dust: An Insidious Hazard"**

CSB has released a new safety video

(<http://www.csb.gov/videoroom/detail.aspx?VID=30&idevd=3273EF46CAE811DD8ECCD75256D89593&idevm=cf4e426edf7a43918a513638b9a7d178&idevmid=368005>) showing how accumulations of combustible dust at worksites can provide the fuel for devastating explosions that kill and maim workers, shut down plants, and harm local economies. "Combustible Dust: An Insidious Hazard" is available online at [www.CSB.gov](http://www.CSB.gov), and on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/uscsb>. It can also be ordered free of charge on a new two-DVD set of all CSB safety videos by filling out the CSB's online DVD request form.

DVD request form -

<http://www.csb.gov/videoroom/videorequest.aspx?print=y&idevd=3273EF46CAE811DD8ECCD75256D89593&idevm=cf4e426edf7a43918a513638b9a7d178&idevmid=368005>

## **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	Kim Morrison,	<a href="mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.com">morrisonkl@upmc.com</a>
Vice President	Aaron Cameron	<a href="mailto:acameron@harsco.com">acameron@harsco.com</a>
Treasurer	Doug Noble	<a href="mailto:dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu">dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Secretary	Gary Gillespie	<a href="mailto:ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com">ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com</a>
Programs	Gene Mattis	<a href="mailto:gene_mattis@pmagroup.com">gene_mattis@pmagroup.com</a>
Arrangements	Mark Barch	<a href="mailto:mbarch@ffic.com">mbarch@ffic.com</a>
Membership	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Wayne Vanderhoof	<a href="mailto:wayne@rjrsafety.com">wayne@rjrsafety.com</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>
Student Section	Nick Kachur	<a href="mailto:nkachur@nevchem.com">nkachur@nevchem.com</a>
Honors and Awards	Scott Keener	<a href="mailto:skeener@pawc.com">skeener@pawc.com</a>
Special Projects	Fran Sehn	<a href="mailto:fran.sehn@willis.com">fran.sehn@willis.com</a>
Special Projects	Cathy Davis	<a href="mailto:cathdavis1@comcast.net">cathdavis1@comcast.net</a>
Long Range Planning	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Public Affairs	Nick Kuntz	<a href="mailto:nkuntz@hdhgroup.com">nkuntz@hdhgroup.com</a>
Auditor	Bill Boots	<a href="mailto:bill.boots@hrh.com">bill.boots@hrh.com</a>
By-Laws	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Foundations	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</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>
PDC Delegate	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>
Council on Practices and Standards Representative	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Social (Holiday Party)	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.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

### **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 - Atlantic Safety and Health Alliance (MASHA)**

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. The Mid Atlantic Safety and Health Alliance (MASHA) is having their kick off safety conference on Thursday October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Regional Learning Alliance Center, 850 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. You can access [www.mashainc.com](http://www.mashainc.com) for more information.

## Career Opportunities

### **Local**

Current job openings can be sent to Pam Ferrante to post on the chapter website. **Current job openings** can be viewed on the chapter web site on the [Job Page](#).

### **ASSE Career Opportunity Website**

Visit [www.nexsteps.org](http://www.nexsteps.org) for Your Next Career Opportunity

Whether you are seeking a job in the safety profession, or are an employer looking for that perfect candidate to fill your safety related positions, Nexsteps is the website for you! As you might expect, the opportunities for careers in safety are virtually limitless. With just a few clicks of the mouse, job seekers can easily post their resume on Nexsteps for employers to view, and receive automated notifications when jobs are available that match your interests. There is no cost to post your resume or search available positions. Employers can post listings for available positions, search resumes online and setup a resume agent to alert you when new resumes are posted that match your criteria. Job posting prices vary- details can be found at [www.nexsteps.org](http://www.nexsteps.org) .

## ASSE Membership Benefits & Services

Reprinted from the ASSE web site @ [www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org) 9/13/09

### **Professionalism**

As the nation's oldest and largest organization serving the SH&E practitioner, the American Society of Safety Engineers, ASSE, is dedicated to enhancing the SH&E profession by:

- Accrediting high quality U.S. college/university baccalaureate and master's degree programs in occupational health and safety.
- Fostering the development of future safety practitioners through the sponsorship of Student Sections at accredited colleges and universities with safety programs.
- Defining ethical standards for safety professionals in the ASSE "Code of Professional Conduct."
- Recognizing outstanding accomplishments in safety and in Society service through ASSE's awards and honors program.

### **Influence**

ASSE keeps on top of developments in government regulations and standards, providing up-to-date information to members and representing members' views through:

- ASSE membership in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

- Secretariat for ANSI Committees on eight major safety topics and projects that will produce eleven standards.
- Regulatory News which is featured in *Professional Safety* each month.
- The reference "Scope and Functions of the Professional Safety Position."
- Strong commitment to [Governmental Affairs](#) to protect the interests of Safety Professionals at the national and state levels.
- TQA: Technical Question and Answer Bulletin

### **Personal Services**

ASSE helps meet members' personal needs through:

- [Online Community](#) featuring a career center, on-line directory, chat room, bulletin boards and permanent e-mail.
- Medical, accident, life, disability, and Medicare supplement insurance at low group rates. ASSE insurance programs are available through [Liberty Mutual](#), [Marsh](#), and [Complete Equity Markets](#).
- A low rate MBNA, ASSE MasterCard with no annual fee. [Apply online!](#)
- Discounts on [AVIS](#) rental car rates in the U.S. and abroad.

### **Technical Resources**

A network of 30,000 safety professionals willing to share their expertise and experience.

- Fourteen technical [Practice Specialties](#) serving specialized interests in academics, construction, consulting, engineering, environmental, fire protection, healthcare, industrial hygiene, international, management, mining, public sector, risk management/insurance, and transportation. Open to all dues paying Society members.
- [151 local Chapters](#), covering all 50 states, Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands, northern Mexico, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, giving opportunities for cooperative problem-solving, leadership training and low-cost educational opportunities.
- *Professional Safety*, our monthly journal, covers a wide variety of safety and health related topics on the cutting edge of the profession. All articles are written by practicing safety professionals.
- [Society Update](#), our online member newsletter, provides information about all Society activities, services and benefits, as well as related activities and developments of interest to members. The newsletter showcases ASSE's most important assets-its members and chapters and appears on ASSE's web page every other month.
- The annual [Professional Development Conference and Exposition](#) where each June more than 3,000 safety professionals gather to hear many of the nation's top safety and health experts discuss the profession's major issues, and to review the products and services of more than 300 exhibitors.
- [Technical Publications](#) cover a broad range of topic areas and subjects of concern to practitioners in the field of safety and health. From practical "how-to" manuals to self-study guides, ASSE Technical Publications offer a valuable tool in professional development. Special Member pricing is available on all ASSE publications.

## **Career Development**

ASSE has introduced the Professional Safety Academy (PSA) as an organizational unit dedicated to offering a higher level of career support to members and the profession. The PSA provides members with:

- Continuing Education Seminars aimed at improving skills, expanding technical knowledge, developing new areas of expertise, and increasing professionalism.
- Career assessment tools to assist safety professionals in positioning themselves for the next career step.
- CEUs and other education credits for maintenance of certifications and designations.
- Discounts on all educational programs.
- CEU tracking for ASSE sponsored programs.

**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