



# VC Spotlight

## A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet

September 2023

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### Valley Coastal Website

<https://valleycoastal.assp.org/>

### President's Message

August in Southern California was a wake-up call for us as Safety Professionals to ensure that we keep emergency preparedness always in our minds.

Hurricane Hillary the likes of which we haven't seen in 84 years on the West Coast. We were told to prepare for high winds and flood waters, in some cases 10 inches. They also warned of flash flooding and the risk of landslides in areas that have been impacted by wildfires. We also received warnings from SCE that if winds were significant there was a potential for power outages.

So how many of you had a plan for both home and work? Did you pull out your Emergency Preparedness Plan and ensure that it included information regarding this type of emergency? Since the weather was going to be approaching our shores over the weekend, did you have a method of communicating with your employees to ensure that they were alerted to the weather, and could they get an alert back to the company if they were being evacuated or needed assistance?

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## President's Message

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And then if that wasn't enough of an issue, In Ventura County there was a 5.1 earthquake that hit on Sunday with epicenter in Ojai. Thank goodness there were no reports of serious damage or injuries. This is still an emergency that doesn't give you any advance warning so must be prepared in advance and have proper training. I watched on the news where businesses were telling people to run while the shaking was occurring! What should they have done?

So as a reminder, here are some tips for California residents to prepare for natural disasters. We are at the end of summer, so heat risk is slowly tapering off, but we need to brace for a wet winter. Help your company and your neighbors be prepared.

### California residents can prepare for natural disasters by:

- Constructing a portable kit that includes:
  - Non-perishable food and water for at least three days
  - A battery-powered or hand crank radio
  - A flashlight with batteries
  - Medications
  - Pet food, formula & diapers if needed
- Reviewing their family emergency plan
- Preparing for power outages
- Locating safe places in their home
- Determining the best evacuation routes
- Training in first aid and CPR
- Showing each family member how to shut off utilities

#### **For extreme heat, residents can:**

- Close window coverings and lower the thermostat
- Turn off unnecessary lights
- Unplug unnecessary devices
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing
- Use sunscreen and wear protective coverings, such as a hat

#### **For floods, residents can:**

- Clear gutters and make sure storm drains clear around you

- Have a household inventory with copies of critical documents
- Consider need for moving valuables off ground floor
- Have a plan for where to go in an emergency and what to do with pets
- Evacuate immediately when advised to

**For storms, residents can:**

- Sign up for alerts and check often for updates
- Prepare as if the power might go out
- Get their house ready for potential floods
- Stay home and off the roads if not told to evacuate
- If they go out, bring supplies and exercise caution

The Valley Coastal Chapter is still looking for volunteers to help coordinate a neighborhood meeting place for those regions not central to our LA area. We want to foster networking in every area – so if you have a business that can accommodate a dozen people and has internet connection – please reach out to me and we can set something up. If everyone pitches in just a little bit, we will be amazed at the value that can be added to our chapter as a whole.

Thank you for what you do and as always keep fighting the good fight.

Lori Elder  
President

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## Joint Technical Symposium – October 12, 2023

Register Now!

[Click Here for the Joint Technical Symposium \(JTS\) Registration Page](#)

The Southern California Joint Technical Symposium was formed way back in the olden days of the 1980s when two Sections (Orange County and Southern California) of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) held a joint meeting. These two small groups included a powerhouse of eminent environmental health and hygiene professionals who were willing to share their expertise with colleagues by providing short technical presentations.

In 2005, the Orange County Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) joined the AIHA sections, and brought a new class of professional to the JTS: The Safety Pro. The event was held in Long Beach area until 2017, when the JTS outgrew local venues and moved to the Carson Community Center about 5 miles north.

The JTS has grown organically and impressively to the Premier EHS Symposium of Southern California. Now three ASSP chapters (Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Orange County) as well as the founding AIHA sections continue to sponsor the JTS each year. With a diverse membership around 1,500 members, each year the sponsoring organizations of the JTS are proud to attract hundreds of prominent practitioners and dozens of sponsoring companies and exhibitors representing the best in current technology and service to attending professionals.



**Meet Your 2023/2024 Chapter Leadership Team**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>President<br/>Lori Elder</b></p>            |    | <p>25 Years in Safety and 19 Years with ASSP<br/>ASSP Experience: Treasurer for the Central Valley Chapter; WISE Chapter Rep &amp; National Secretary</p>  |
| <p><b>President Elect<br/>Maddie Vaughan</b></p>  |    | <p>Maddie joined the ASSE in 2008. and is an active member of both the Valley Coastal Chapter as well as the Los Angeles Chapter. Maddie is a member of the Construction Specialty Group. She is a WISE member and was awarded Mentor of the year in 2019. In that same year Maddie also won the Valley Coastal Chapter SPY award. Other offices and chapter involvement includes Membership chair 2014-2015, President Elect. 2016-2017, Chapter President 2018-2019, Government Affairs 2021-2022.</p> |
| <p><b>Treasurer<br/>Fabiola Garcia</b></p>        |  | <p>31 Years in Safety and 9 Years with ASSP,<br/>ASSP Experience: Valley Coastal Treasurer 2017 to 2023</p>  |
| <p><b>Secretary<br/>Rosa Salame</b></p>           |  | <p>17 Years in Safety and 11 Years with ASSP<br/>ASSP Experience: Valley Coastal, Current Chapter Secretary, Served on Chapter Bylaws Review 2021, and Nominations &amp; Elections Committee 2021 &amp; 2022</p>   |
| <p><b>Advisory Group Member<br/>Tom Logan</b></p> |  | <p>42 Years in Safety and 41 with ASSP,<br/>ASSP Experience: President Valley Coastal,2022-2023 Region 1 Area 3 Director 2018, 2019 &amp; 2020, Past President Valley Coastal 2014 &amp; 2015,</p>   |

**[Click Here to See the Full Valley Coastal ASSP Board](#)**

## Valley Coastal Meeting Schedule & Resources

Join us for future Valley Coastal ASSP meetings scheduled for **October 18, 2023, November 15, 2023,** and **December 20, 2023.** Meetings are held in-person and virtually from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. [Register on Valley Coastal’s Website by Clicking Here.](#)

Visit the [Valley Coastal Website](#) for resources and presentations from previous meetings. Here are some quick links for our most recent events:

### Archived Valley Coastal Meeting Presentations & Videos

|  |
|--|
| <a href="#">February 2023 - The Five Dysfunctions of a Team</a>                                    |
| <a href="#">February 2023 - Dysfunction in your Safety Team? (Video)</a>                           |
| <a href="#">January 2023 - Construction Suicide Prevention (Video)</a>                             |
| <a href="#">November 2022 - Hazard Communication</a>   |
| <a href="#">November 2022 - Haz Com Review (Video)</a>   |
| <a href="#">October 2022 - Cal OSHA Updates &amp; Resources</a>                                    |
| <a href="#">September 2022 - Beyond the Code - How to Keep Businesses Open After an Earthquake</a> |



We'll see you at our next meeting!

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## Chapter Recognition Program

Congratulations on a great chapter year!

The Chapter Recognition Program recognizes chapter activities that are considered most important to a successful chapter year. While providing outstanding value to chapter members. The Valley Coastal Chapter has achieved Platinum level recognition for the 2022-2023 year. This recognition is based on the information your chapter submitted in the Chapter Operations Management Tool (COMT) of June 30, 2023.

The platinum chapter designation is awarded to chapters that meet rigorous standards of excellence as established by ASSP.

Your efforts benefited your chapter members and the safety profession. Your chapter's achievement of this level of success is impressive and greatly appreciated by ASSP.

Again, congratulations on your accomplishment, and thank you for your work in providing opportunities for ASSP members to become better safety professionals.

Sincerely,

The ASSP Membership & Communities Team

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## Santa Barbara ASSP Neighborhood

### Introducing the Santa Barbara Neighborhood of the Valley Coastal Chapter ASSP

Our Chapter survey indicated that one of the top reasons for joining the ASSP is to "expand your local network of safety professionals". In order to facilitate this, we are setting up a few neighborhood groups to allow members to meet other local safety professionals.



J.B. Quigley will coordinate our first neighborhood for the Santa Barbara area. Please send an email to [president-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org](mailto:president-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org) for more information on joining this networking opportunity.

If you are interested in developing a Chapter Neighborhood in the San Luis Obispo area, send an email to [president-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org](mailto:president-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org) and provide your contact information.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to meet fellow safety professionals who are most likely dealing with similar challenges



## See You Next Year

Workplace safety and health will continue to evolve, and the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) will continue to connect you with industry expertise, a network of like-minded peers and the latest innovations. Save the date for our 63rd annual Conference and Expo.

We'll see you in Denver, August 7-9!

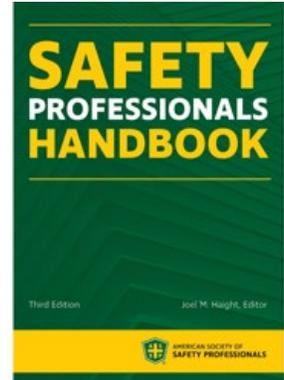
ASSP's annual safety conference is the nation's leading industry event. Apply to speak at this conference and contribute to the professional conversation about safety.

**Visit the Conference Website Here: [safety.assp.org](https://safety.assp.org)**

## Newsroom

### **ASSP Publishes Third Edition of the Safety Professional's Handbook**

The handbook, first released in 2008, has become a standard reference guide for safety professionals and students across all industries. It also has been adopted by several colleges as a classroom text. Now in one volume, the third edition continues ASSP's commitment of providing a comprehensive resource that can be easily understood at all levels of experience. Approximately 90 expert practitioners present the latest research and practical applications in occupational and environmental safety and health.



Essential topics include regulatory guidance, science and engineering, cost analysis and budgeting, benchmarking and performance criteria, and hazardous materials handling. The handbook features learning objectives and review questions for every chapter; numerous case studies that reflect real-world experiences; updated references to OSHA regulations and consensus standards; and an appendix with formulas, computations and rules of thumb.

[Click Here to Visit the ASSP Bookstore](#)

### **5 Emerging Technologies in Ergonomics and Why They Matter**

Emerging technologies are changing the way Safety Professionals approach ergonomics. [Click Here for five tools that could help you address workplace challenges.](#)

### **OSHA Aims to Reduce Hazards in Warehouses and Distribution Centers**

OSHA has launched a national emphasis program to address hazards in warehouses, processing facilities, distribution centers and high-risk retail establishments. [Click Here to Learn More](#)

### **Q&A: What the Updated Z359.2 Standard Means for Managed Fall Protection Systems**

Kevin Denis shares how the recently updated ANSI/ASSP Z359.2 standard can help you improve your fall protection system and better protect workers at height. [Click Here to Learn More](#)

[Click here to visit the ASSP Newsroom for more update to news and articles!](#)

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## Welcome New Chapter Members!

The Valley Coastal Chapter welcomes the following new members!

| <b>Name</b>          | <b>City</b>         |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Maria Bedolla        | Oxnard              |
| Roberto Cervera      | Carpinteria         |
| Eric Fishman         | Simi Valley         |
| Shirin Razi Kamasaei | Woodland Hills      |
| Mina Taghizadeh      | Northridge          |
| Dwayne Bozeman       | San Juan Capistrano |
| Patricio Huerta      | Moorpark            |
| Travis Norton        | Universal City      |

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## Dates and Links to Remember!

**September is National Preparedness Month**

**September is Sports Eye Safety Month**

**National Farm Safety and Health Week is September 17 – September 23, 2023**

**October is National Protect Your Hearing Month**

**December is Safe Toys & Gifts Month**

**December Holiday Season Drunk Driving Campaign**

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## Resources from ASSP

### Total Worker Health

What Is *Total Worker Health*®?

*Total Worker Health*® (TWH) is defined as policies, programs, and practices that integrate protection from work-related safety and health hazards with promotion of injury and illness-prevention efforts to advance worker well-being. It is a holistic, organization-wide approach to worker well-being. As stated by NIOSH, "The *Total Worker Health*® (TWH) approach prioritizes a hazard-free work environment for all workers" and recognizes ". . . that work is a social determinant of health."

Understanding and applying TWH principles can help your organization move from a compliance focus to a risk-based approach to safety management. These principles help you consider not only the physical work environment, but also the physical and psychosocial work environment and their impact on workers. The resources provided here will help you better understand and use a TWH approach to prevent injuries and illnesses in your organization while also improving overall worker well-being.

[See more tools](#) to assist with integrating "Total Worker Health" into your program.

### Need Financial Support for Your Lifelong Learning?

The ASSP Foundation offers academic scholarships for students at any stage in their career. Getting that MBA? You can apply! Students enrolled in any field of study are eligible. The ASSP Foundation also offers career development grants to support professional development outside of college courses. Applications are due by Feb. 15, 2023.

[Click here to apply](#)

### March is National Ladder Safety Month.

A recent Case for Safety podcast episode focuses on safe climbing and applying the hierarchy of controls to ladder use in the workplace. In the episode, Matt Jacquel, M.S., CSP, CIH, CPCU, ARM, CRIS, vice president national construction risk control consultant at McGriff, discusses ladder safety on a construction site, common ladder injuries and incidents, and keeping employees and employers accountable for ladder safety.

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#) Jacquel's Professional Safety article about portable ladder safety

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#) to the episode

## ASSP Member-Get-A-Member Program

Do you have friends, colleagues, and associated who would find value in ASSP membership? Tell them about ASSP by using our [Refer-A-Friend Email Tool](#).

The more of your friends who join as full members, the more you get rewarded.

| REFER<br>2                       | REFER<br>4 | REFER<br>6 |   |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|---|
| FREE On-Demand Webinar           | X          | X          | X |
| FREE 1-Year Membership Extension |            | X          | X |
| FREE \$50 Amazon Gift Card       |            |            | X |

*You've experienced the many benefits of belonging to the American Society of Safety Professionals. Invite your colleagues to join and help them connect with a community of great people who provide great resources.*

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## Interested in Presenting?

If you are interested in presenting at one of our Professional Development Meetings, please submit a proposal to [President-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org](mailto:President-elect@valleycoastal.assp.org). The Valley Coastal ASSP is always looking for speakers to help our members:

Identify key issues facing SH&E professionals

- Expand knowledge to improve professional skills
- Prepare for the challenges in the SH&E fields
- Engage in the discourse concerning the profession

Identify emerging issues relevant to the profession

