

VC Spotlight

A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet



Valley Coastal ASSE Newsletter

July 2014

2014-2015 Executive Board

President:	Tom Logan
President-Elect:	Tom Logan
Secretary:	Don Dennis
Treasurer;	Atis Zikmanis
Delegate:	Paul Wheeler
Membership:	Amy Dolson
Student Mbrshp:	G. Lopez-Finch
Gov. Affairs:	Tony Leite
Newsletter:	Tim Karcz
Sergeant at Arms:	Robert Chavez
Communications:	Joe Oliveri
Programs	John Grohs

President's Message

The new Executive Board and I look forward to leading the Chapter in the 2014 /15 year. We are working hard to enhance your chapter experience and support your career aspirations and safety knowledge.

The board would like to recognize the chapter achievements that retiring president, Paul Wheeler, and his executive board accomplished in the past year. Under his direction we located a new central location for our meetings and started the transition from the local web support to the National ASSE web portal server.

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President's Message continued

This move will improve the web content keep the page up to date, have links to the ASSE Job line and add officer email addresses to allow easier communication between the chapter officers and our members. Look for the roll-out in the coming months.

While chapter meetings are suspended for the summer, your executive board will continue to meet with the focus of improving chapter member experience. Our goals are to present and schedule interesting and informative topics for our meetings; improve member communications; increase member participation in meetings, surveys and contact via social media; expand our contact with future safety professionals through our student membership; and increase member participation in chapter leadership.

Looking to give back to you profession, we anticipate several chapter projects that will need a few extra volunteers to make the projects a success. Please feel free to give me a call if you have a few hours to support the chapter and your fellow professionals.

Tom Logan

The June 2014 ASSE Professional Development Conference Update

The House of Delegate met on Sunday prior to the opening of the PDC. The discussion on the new structure of the ASSE Board of Directors and the Realignment of the Regional Vice Presidents scope of control was quite lively. Based on our chapter intentions our HOD Representative voted to accept the motion and the motion was passed by a large majority. Under the new model, the Board will focus on strategic issues and the RVP's will address the operational issues. This should streamline the decision making and focus the RVP's attention on support to the chapters and members.

Future Meetings: 2014/2015



Please mark your calendars for the coming year. We will be meeting third Tuesday of the odd months and are looking to schedule two offsite technical tours one in October 2014 and on in April 2015.

September 16, 2014	Ergonomic a Practical Approach
November 14, 2014	Environmental Risk Management (ERM) for the Safety Professional ISO 45001 Presented by Erike Young MPPA, CSP REGION VICE PRESIDENT (RVP) REGION I
January 20, 2015	Cal OSHA and Work Comp Update 2015
March 17, 2014;	To Be Determined
May 19, 2014.	To Be Determined

Your executive board and I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming meeting

We are working with ASSE National to have the presentations qualified for CEU's.

Change the contact for future Presentation at the end of the newsletter change to

john.grohs@agensys.com

VCASSE has a new home for our meetings!

The Hampton Inn
5638 Sepulveda Blvd
Sherman Oaks, Ca
Hamptoninn.hilton.com/sherman_oaks

Why Volunteer ?

There are many benefits you'll get by volunteering for professional organizations or associations whether you are retired, in a career transition, an outright job search or just trying to advance yourself within your current employment situation.

Here are three top benefits:

#1 You'll Gain Connections: Your aim might be to get a new job or it might be to get new friends. Regardless, you'll meet new people as well as possibly reinforce existing relationships through volunteering. I've made some enduring friendships working side-by-side with other volunteers. I would also go so far as to say that these connections now make up part of my social network and act as my "virtual" team in my work and life.

#2 You'll Gain Skills: I once heard great advice from a wise fellow volunteer. She said that you should always sign up for tasks or take on responsibilities that do not fall under your usual career area. In other words, if you're an accountant, don't get into the finance committee – instead, volunteer for the publicity or fundraising committees so you're a) not doing in your spare time as a volunteer what you do all day long as a paid professional (let's avoid burnout, okay?) and b) learn something new & expand your horizons.

#3 You'll Gain Opportunities: By getting involved in a professional or trade association, you increase your chances to hear about possible projects and job opportunities in the market. You can keep abreast of news, trends or technology updates in your field and in the business community at-large. These opportunities don't always come in expected ways, so keep your mind and ears open. My last two employers before I went solo gave me great jobs – I met them both through networking at professional organizations.

Credit - Angela Loëb is an author, speaker and co-owner of Great Occupations.

ASSE Newsroom

The Illusion of Being Invulnerable May Harm Employees at Work

No matter how many safety training courses emphasize how dangerous it may be to work with electricity, chemicals or cargo unless proper safety protocols are followed, there is always a percentage of employees who believe they aren't vulnerable to such risks — until it's too late.

Those types of perceptions need to be changed before injuries or fatalities prove them wrong, say authors Anna Floyd and H. Landis Floyd II in the April issue of ASSE's *Professional Safety* titled, "The Value of Vulnerability." Safety professionals must ensure their training courses go beyond statistics in conveying how to properly manage risk.

"Safety training...without a focus on risk susceptibility and severity is a disservice to workers," the authors write. "A worker's perception that s/he has a low likelihood of suffering a nonfatal electrical burn is accurate, yet among those who are involved in such an electrical incident, their likelihood of being killed is high. This discrepancy raises an important point about how people conceptualize risk."

Whatever beliefs employees may have about their own vulnerability, the authors encourage safety professionals to incorporate stories in their training sessions as a way to personalize potentially dangerous situations to them.

"Stories about people affected by incidents that include photos, names and references to personable characteristics will persuade much more than simply presenting statistics," the article states. "The more a worker can relate to a story's character, the more likely s/he is to be transported and affected by that story, and the more likely s/he will be to think 'that could be me.'"

Read this article at: https://www.asse.org/professionalsafety/docs/F1_Floyd_0414.pdf

ASSE Offers Revised Edition of "Construction Safety and Management Engineering" Book

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the world's oldest professional safety organization, released the second edition of its popular "Construction Safety Management and Engineering" book with updated standards and technical issues in construction.

The first edition, printed in 2004, is one of ASSE's best-selling books. The revised edition will include construction standards adopted over the last 10 years, as well as chapters devoted to fall protection, steel erection, scaffolding safety, electrical safety and excavation.



According to U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics, out of more than 4,000 worker fatalities in private industry in calendar year 2012, 806 or 19.3% were in construction. The leading causes of worker deaths on construction sites were falls, struck by object, electrocution and caught-in/between.

“Anyone interested in construction safety and its impact to the global workforce will find here a useful reference book and guide to understanding a very complex subject,” said Dr. Daryl C. Hill, a past-president of

ASSE, who edited the contributions of more than 40 industry experts to the new edition. “The aim is to provide a tool to address the many hazards in construction and ensure that human suffering and harm is eliminated in construction throughout the world.”

The 890-page book, over two years in development is available for purchase online at <http://www.asse.org/cartpage.php?link=4447>. The cost is \$129.50 for ASSE members and \$195 list price.

“As safety professionals, we need to take full advantage of every available resource to help us do our job,” wrote Eddie Greer, a past ASSE president in the book’s forward. “This text is just that, an available resource relying on subject-matter experts to help make a difference.”

ASSE Urges OSHA to Withdraw Electronic Reporting Proposed Rule

American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) President Kathy Seabrook responds to OSHA’s electronic reporting proposed rule:

“In our [comments](#) submitted for the record, ASSE urged OSHA to withdraw its proposed rule, [Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses](#), until the agency develops clearer objectives and a stronger rationale for requiring establishments with 250 or more employees to electronically submit each quarter injury and illness records and each year summary data. Establishments with 20 or more employees would submit electronically the annual summary form and certain employers would submit electronically other information on notification from OSHA.

“ASSE does not believe OSHA has explained adequately how collecting the information will actually improve workplace safety, or how OSHA will manage the information once it is collected. ASSE believes publishing the information collected will make more difficult the efforts of safety professionals to focus companies on preventing hazards instead of reporting injuries. .”

To Read More from ASSE’s Newsroom, Visit:

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



Upcoming Live Webinars

[Too Old to Work? Too Sick to Work? Too Stressed to Work? A Look at the Latest Strategies for Optimizing the Intersection of Health and Work](#)

July 23, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CENTRAL

[The Transformational Leader: From Hands and Feet to Hearts and Minds](#)

July 30, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CENTRAL

[From Deep Lead to Deep Safe... where few have gone before](#)

August 27, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CENTRAL

[Leading Indicators: the Future for Great Safety Performance](#)

September 17, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CENTRAL

[Arc Flash & NFPA 70E - Understanding the Hazard](#)

October 1, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CENTRAL

[Decision Analysis in Support of Safety Management Systems](#)

October 8, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CENTRAL

[Using the CDC INPUTS™ Survey to Improve Workplace Health and Safety](#)

October 29, 2014 - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CENTRAL

Visit <http://www.asse.org/education/virtualclassroom.php> for more information.



On Demand Offerings

[Actively Caring For People - A Special Session By Dr. E. Scott Geller](#)

[ANSI/AIHA/ASSE Z10-2012 - Standard for Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems](#)

[Best Practices in Industrial Hygiene](#)

[Changing Behaviors – Balancing the Elements for Effective Safety Management Systems](#)

[Global Safety Experience](#)

[Improving Safety Through Mobile Technology](#)

[International Society for Fall Protection Symposium](#)

[Law for the Safety Professional](#)

[Loss Control Virtual Event](#)

[Making Metrics Matter](#)

[Overcoming the Top 10 Safety Leadership Mistakes](#)

[Prevention Through Design Virtual Symposium](#)

[Recordings From ASSE's Fatality and Severe Loss Symposium](#)

[Risk Management for the SH&E Professional](#)

[Safety Issues in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector](#)

[Slips, Trips and Falls: Best Practices and Standards](#)

[We Have to Do What? Learn the Good and Bad Practical Results of Recent Legal Developments from an OSHA Lawyer](#)

Visit <http://www.asse.org/education/virtualclassroom.php> for more information.

Would you like to present at a future VCASSE Meeting?

Valley Coastal ASSE invites those interested in presenting at one of its Professional Development Meetings to submit a proposal to john.grohs@agensys.com Valley Coastal ASSE endeavors to provide a forum for attendees to learn the profession's best practices and to:

- Identify key issues facing SH&E professionals
- Expand their knowledge to improve their 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



Visit the ASSE Region 1 Website!

The ASSE Region 1 is made up of 20 Chapters and now has a new Web Page, <http://region1.asse.org/>. you will find links to other member chapters, Regional and National news updates along with links to ASSE Industry & Interest Groups - Enjoy networking, service and leadership opportunities, technical and educational resources, publication opportunities and access to leadership guidance and advice and Government Affairs Resources – Keep up with Safety legislation, ASSE is committed to ensuring that any decision by federal or state government impacting the safety health and environment of the workplace is based on good science and sound technology