

# VC Spotlight

A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet



Valley Coastal ASSE Newsletter

December 2014

## 2014-2015 Executive Board

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

## President's Message

Your voice is important to us and it's important that you know we listen. The November meeting topic and the January meeting topic are a direct result of your survey feedback.

In November Mr. Dan Leiner, Area Manager Cal/OSHA Consultation Service provided an excellent presentation. He covered the current Cal OSHA's goals and purpose, the current hot topics and the 10 top citations. His presentation material will be posted on the web by the end of December.





## President’s Message Continued....

The survey also indicated that field trips to some of our more interesting local industries would be enjoyable. In January the chapter members have an opportunity to take a tour of Exelis in Van Nuys and enjoy a presentation on Radio Frequency Safety. Be sure to read the information on this tour and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

As you can see surveys are important and can help direct the chapter and the society as a whole. In January the national ASSE will be requesting your input to help steer the national organization. Your input as chapter and society members is valuable and the results will be shared with our chapter to further direct our activities. Last year only 11 of our members participated in the national survey. Hopefully, with a little advanced warning, many more of you will choose to participate in the coming survey.

The Board and I offer our warmest regards for the Holiday Season and a Safe and Great New Year.

### Let us know how we are doing:

- **General issues or Feedback**      [Feedback@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Feedback@valleycoastal.asse.org)
- **Membership Assistance**      [Membershipchair@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Membershipchair@valleycoastal.asse.org)
- **Program Suggestions**      [Programs@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Programs@valleycoastal.asse.org)
- **Newsletter Items Opinions**      [Newsletereditor@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Newsletereditor@valleycoastal.asse.org)
- **Student Members Support**      [Studentmemberchair@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Studentmemberchair@valleycoastal.asse.org)
- **Post a Job Opening**      [Jobs@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:Jobs@valleycoastal.asse.org)

### Special Election Results

As posted in our October newsletter a special election was scheduled to fill two of our elected positions as required by our chapter charter. The nominations were opened up in November and the listed candidates were published on our ballot in early December. There was only one candidate for each position. Vote was completed and Tom Logan will fill the President Elect post and Atis Zikmanis will hold the Vice President position for the 2014/15 chapter year.

If you are interested in serving the chapter please submit your name, membership and phone numbers and email address to [president@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:president@valleycoastal.asse.org). The deadline for submission is November 19, 2014. All qualified submissions will be listed on the Special Election Ballet to be presented to the chapter for selection on November 30 and will close on Midnight December 7, 2014.

**IF you are interested in volunteering in any way to support the chapter or have ideas to improve the chapter’s support of your career or any feedback on our activities you can let me know**

**Tom Logan, President Valley Coastal Chapter – [president@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:president@valleycoastal.asse.org)**

Next Meeting: **January 20, 2014**



**January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Exelis RF Radiation Exposure & Safety Tour (Van Nuys)**

Please join our Lunch Meeting and a Presentation on Radio Frequency Safety. The Exelis Van Nuys facility has been at the forefront of developing radar systems for civilian and military organizations worldwide. One unique aspect of our safety program is the administration of a Radio Frequency Radiation Safety Program. After the meeting there will be a tour of the facility. See note below.

**Meeting Location:**

Exelis, Inc.  
7821 Orion Ave,  
Van Nuys

**Parking:**

Please park in open visitor spaces.

**Note:**

Exelis is a government contractor which requires specific identification for any ASSE members that want to participate in the tour portion of the event.

You will need to bring proof of US Citizenship (either a birth certificate or passport). If you do not bring one of these items or are not a US Citizen you will be excluded from the tour portion of the event.

**Please RSVP by sending an email to [president@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:president@valleycoastal.asse.org)**



## Anniversaries

On behalf of the American Society of Safety Engineers and the Valley Coastal Chapter, I'm pleased to present the following with their 25 year membership certificate.

Kenneth Hessen

David Allday

Jack Rhodes

Mary Gene Ryan

The Chapter and the Board would like to recognize their membership in the ASSE. Their continued active participation in our society shows their dedication to the safety and health of all individuals they come in contact with. Also, their continued membership demonstrates their desire to keep up with and advance their knowledge in safety and health.

## ASSE Newsroom

### ASSE's Professional Safety Journal: A New View of the Great Safety Pyramid

Since its creation 83 years ago by H. W. Heinrich, the safety triangle offered a ratio formula that encouraged safety professionals to focus on the causes of minor injuries as a way to reduce the probability of having major accidents. It sparked a new way of interpreting safety data that may be flawed.

Dave Rebbitt, author of the cover story "Pyramid Power" in the September issue of the American Society of Safety Engineer's monthly journal Professional Safety, makes the argument that the safety pyramid's assumptions are off base. Managing minor incidents only improves these types of incidents. It does not affect the major incident rate.

"Attempts to apply a ratio or pyramid on a wide scale are not doomed because the concept is wrong, but because of the wide variation among industries and within individual companies," Rebbitt writes.

In 1931, Heinrich's safety pyramid was built around the ratio of 300-29-1: one serious injury was related to 29 minor injuries and 300 non-injury related events. Heinrich claimed 88 percent of incidents were caused by the unsafe acts of people, 10 percent were caused by unsafe conditions and 2 percent were unpreventable.

"Today, many believe that Heinrich's work was important, but superficial, and the numbers in the triangle questionable at best," Rebbitt writes.

Heinrich's real contribution isn't in the ratio formula but in advocating for the use of data to find common causes as a function of injury investigations. "Using ratios can identify trends and give early warning that something is outside the normal expected parameters," Rebbitt writes. "We should not dismiss these concepts or assumptions but understand what they mean to the profession today. The figures published by pioneers were meaningful to them, but forward-thinking professionals must make their own to keep things relevant and effective."

Read this article at: [https://www.asse.org/professionalsafety/pastissues/059/09/F1Reb\\_0914Z.pdf](https://www.asse.org/professionalsafety/pastissues/059/09/F1Reb_0914Z.pdf)

For more than 50 years, ASSE's Professional Safety journal has been sharing the latest technical knowledge in SH&E—information that is constantly being developed through research and on-the-job experience. Each issue delivers practical guidance, techniques and solutions to help SH&E professionals identify hazards, protect people, prevent injuries, improve work environments and educate management that investing in safety is a sound business strategy. For more information please visit <http://www.asse.org/professionalsafety>

To Read More from ASSE's Newsroom, Visit:

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



## Upcoming Live Webinars

[Electrical Safety/NFPA 70 \(2015 Edition\): An Overview of Standard Revisions](#)

January 14, 2015 - 11:00am - 12:30pm Central

[Lockout/Tagout for Construction and Demolition Operations - Updates, Changes and How to Apply the ANSI A10.44 Standard](#)

January 21, 2015 - 11:00am - 12:30pm Central

[Raising Safety Mindfulness](#)

January 28, 2015 - 11:00am - 12:30pm Central

[Strategies to Getting Attention on Your Safety Messages](#)

April 8, 2015 - 1:00pm - 2:30pm 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 [programs@valleycoastal.asse.org](mailto:programs@valleycoastal.asse.org). 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