

VC Spotlight

A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet



Valley Coastal ASSE Newsletter

October 2015

2015-2016 Executive Board

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President's Message

The September meeting was a success at our new meeting location in Woodland Hills. Our next meeting will be in November and will be our annual Cal OSHA Update.

We will also have the pleasure of hearing from Dan Hopwood, MPH, ARM, CSP, Region 1 Vice President, AVP. He oversees the 19 west coast chapters including Alaska and Hawaii. Dan along with the other RVP's represent and speak for the membership to the ASSE Society leadership. Under his guidance the Regional Operating Committee, ROC is working to support the region chapters with improved communication and the sharing of ideas and programs to support our members.

Every year the ASSE recognizes the service provided by the local chapters to their members. Last year our chapter achieved a Silver recognition level. Your board is dedicated to you the members. In the coming months you will see improvement in communications, outreach and ways to realize the full benefits of your membership. We will be aiming toward achieving Gold in the 2015/16 year.

We have expanded the board and are still looking for other volunteers. We can use assistance with social media. If you like to follow LinkedIn or Facebook and would be interested in managing the chapter account touch base with me at the meeting or send me an email at president@valleycoastal.asse.org



Explore the New Practice Specialty Portals

ASSE [practice specialties, branches and common interest groups](#) connect members with a network ready to share knowledge and exchange ideas. To make that even easier, all the groups have a new online member portal that allows access to OSH resources, industry news and information about the groups. Each group has its own online portal that features an Ask the Experts section; an Administrator Message; a blog where users can read relevant, up-to-date industry news; and a members section where users can find resources and learn how to get involved.

Not a member of one of ASSE's practice specialties, branches or common interest groups? Use the code **SU1231** log into any of the portals to see first-hand what the new portals are all about. To learn more information about what these groups have to offer, contact Char Haguwood, ASSE manager, practice specialties, at (847) 768-3436 or chaguwood@asse.org.

To begin to explore the website click [Explore The Specialty Groups](#)

Valley Coastal Hosting a Holiday Food Drive

This year the chapter would like to start a new tradition, an annual food drive. As a group of good men and women our careers are dedicated to the safety and health of others. As we contemplate the parties and meals we also remember there are many less fortunate and go hungry with little to celebrate. Please bring few cans or packaged foods to the November meeting and we will deliver to local food banks; Salvation Army Ventura and West Valley Food Pantry.



Cal/OSHA Update – November 17, 2015

11:30 – 1:30

Carla Slepak

Associate Safety & Health Consultant



Topic: Cal/OSHA Update

Speaker info: Carla Slepak, Associate Safety & Health Consultant

Carla currently serves as an Associate Safety & Health Consultant to Cal/OSHA where she has worked since 1996. Prior to working for Cal/OSHA Carla worked as a Project Manager for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control where she managed and approved RCRA Hazardous Waste Permit projects for aerospace, refineries and landfills. She has also taught I.H. Sampling and Instrumentation courses at Cal. State Dominguez Hills and holds a Master's of Science degree.

Meeting Location

Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers

5700 Canoga Avenue, Suite 40

Woodland Hills, CA 91367

www.pomsassoc.com



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.



After the resounding success of the first SAFETY INDIA 2014 Conference & Exposition in Chennai, American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is pleased to announce the second edition of SAFETY INDIA 2015. Conference & Exposition to be held in Mumbai, India.



For more information, visit: <http://www.safetyindia2015.org/>



ASSE Newsroom

ASSE's SeminarFest 2016 Offers Safety Professionals Opportunities to Grow Skillsets

The American Society of Safety Engineers, the world's oldest professional safety society, encourages occupational health and safety professionals to hone their knowledge and skills, including the potential of earning recertification points, by registering now for SeminarFest 2016, Feb. 5-11, 2016 in Las Vegas.

Each year, ASSE's SeminarFest offers more than 80 sessions ranging from one to three days in length, with each providing essential technical, management and skill development on a comprehensive range of topics for OSH professionals across the full spectrum of practice. By attending these seminars during the week, participants can earn up to 5.1 CEU/Recertification Points.

"SeminarFest is a unique opportunity to become engaged in an educational event that carries with it a wide variety of training topics participants cannot experience anywhere else," said Trudy Goldman, ASSE manager of Education and Program Development. "The instructors are high-caliber safety professionals, all of whom are considered content and thought leaders in their field."

Aside from the eight preparation workshops and more than 80 seminars, participants may work toward a certificate in Safety Management, Executive Program in Safety Management, Global Safety Management and Risk Assessment. More than 1,000 people are expected to attend the week-long event, as well as take advantage of the networking opportunities with safety professionals from across the globe.

"SeminarFest is an ideal way for participants to propel their occupational health and safety careers by improving their skills, earning recertification points and networking with industry thought leaders," Goldman said.

To register, please visit <http://seminarfest.asse.org>. The event will be held at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

ASSE to Host Construction Safety Symposium in New Orleans This Fall

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is hosting a two-day Construction Safety Symposium featuring industry experts discussing the latest safety practices, innovation and risk management thinking from November 12-13, 2015 in New Orleans.

"We've assembled a top-notch group of speakers to share their expertise on fall prevention, OSHA's new confined spaces standard, risk assessment and prevention through design," said Trudy Goldman, ASSE Manager of Education and Program Development. "We want participants to gain important knowledge they can apply and share with their colleagues."



Registration for the symposium is available at <http://symposia.asse.org/>

The symposium's keynote presentation will be given by members of the BlackOps U.S. Navy SEALs entitled, "Flawless Execution: Always the Goal!" Other presenters include:

- Thomas Kramer, P.E., CSP, will share powerful solutions on fall prevention
- Gary Lopez, CSP, will discuss the new confined space standard
- NIOSH's Michael Flynn, MA, will present a model of loss reduction for at-risk work groups
- NIOSH's Dr. Christine Branche will offer how to develop a successful Safety Stand-Down
- A host of experts, including Deborah Grubbe, PE, CEng, Co-Chair, NAC Safety Committee/President will provide expertise on the most critical topics in construction safety management including risk assessment and prevention through design

The symposium also offers participant a chance to earn 1.3 continuing education credits.

"With all the changes taking place in the construction industry, we wanted this symposium to give anyone affiliated in this field a chance to learn the best practices around these timely subjects," Goldman said.

To Read More from ASSE's Newsroom, Visit:

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



Regulatory Update

Fed/OSHA:

Confined Spaces in Construction for Residential Construction Work- On October 1st, 2015, OSHA Director James Maddux extended the temporary enforcement policy through January 8, 2016. This policy covers construction work on single-family homes, duplexes, and townhouses but not multi-unit apartment buildings.

In essence, OSHA (Fed/OSHA not Cal/OSHA) will not be issuing citations under the Confined Spaces in Construction standard as long as the employer makes a good faith effort to comply with Federal training requirements. The Letter of Memorandum can be found at this address:

Federal OSHA Confined Space Enforcement Policy:

Please note the section approximately in the middle of the page that details what constitutes good faith efforts.

While this standard applies specifically to worksites and employees under Federal oversight, it is critical to understand that areas covered under OSHA approved State plans often have standards that meet or exceed those currently enforced by the Federal Government. Cal/OSHA enforces regulations for Confined Spaces under T8, Section 5156 of the California Code of Regulations found here: CCR, T8, Section 5156 Given recent Federal Regulations adopted by Cal/OSHA, a review of your program might be in order.

Cal/OSHA:

Regulatory changes enforced by Cal/OSHA have been few and far between in 2016. AB 578 was recently vetoed by Governor Brown. The bill would have required requestors of variances to Title 8 regulations to notify workers and representatives of workers who will be impacted prior to work start dates. According to the Governor's official veto message, the impact of the bill was unclear. The Governor indicated that the current process appears adequate. This was a follow up or "clean up" bill to the Refinery Shutdown/Turnaround notification requirements (SB 1300) passed September 20, 2014. For official information regarding Governor Brown's veto of AB578, please review this message: Governor Brown Veto AB 578

Links you should know Cal/OSHA Publications Page:

Check out the Cal/OSHA publication page for recent updated information. New Safety & Health Fact Sheets for October include pamphlets in five different languages on Protecting Temporary Agency Workers (now in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Korean in addition to English version published in June 2015), and Respiratory Protection. These recent additions follow closely on the heels of the new Hazard Communication and GHS fact sheet in August 2015 and the Health & Safety Rights: Facts for California Workers published in June 2015.



Upcoming Live Webinars

Criteria for Safety Practices With the Construction, Demolition, Modification and Maintenance of Communication Structures

Includes a Live Event on 10/28/2015 at 12:00 PM (EDT)

The Telecommunications industry field workforce is small and specialized which results in the scenario where very few OSHA regulations or industry standards that apply to the industry. The goal was to develop an all-inclusive standard that gave the industry guidance for safely completing their daily work tasks.

An In-Depth Look at the Combustible Dust Hazard and PPE Protection

Includes a Live Event on 11/04/2015 at 12:00 PM (EST)

This webinar will focus on the flash fire component of combustible dust events and the most current status of the OSHA rulemaking and National Emphasis Program as well as relevant NFPA standards.

Top Five Strategic EHS Training Tips

Includes a Live Event on 11/11/2015 at 12:00 PM (EST)

Gain the tools to implement the top five strategic tips to improve efficiency and effectiveness of your EHS training efforts.

7 Safety Leadership Insights - A Special Live and On-Demand Web Series With Dr. Tom Krause

Take part in the exciting new web series that viewers are already calling "one of your BEST webinars" and a "great piece of work!" Missed the first episode? Your registration includes access to binge watch the recordings!

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 adolson24@yahoo.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