



VC Spotlight

A place for Safety Professionals to Meet

December 2018

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Valley Coastal Website

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

President's Message

Greetings Members,

Well, we've almost made it through another year. I hope it was a successful for everyone. I would like to take this opportunity to talk about membership, and the benefits of ASSP membership. The time of year has come to re-new our membership and pay our dues. I just wanted to remind everyone about the benefits of membership with the ASSP. Even with the membership drive, Valley Coastal has lost 8 members in the past year. It is my job to figure out why we are losing members as well as how to drawl in new members.

Anyone who knows me personally or professionally will tell you, I always think I can make things just a little better. I can fix anything just ask me. Serving as your chapter president this last year has been an eye-opening experience. It has been challenging, educational, and even a little frustrating. I thought I could come into office and change all the things I felt could be done better or were challenges for the chapter in the past; i.e. membership, recruiting, member engagement and ramping up of student membership. I never imagined how difficult these things would be to change. After dealing with some of the issues, I felt like I should have sent out thank you letters to everyone who came before me and got us to where we are today. I now see that "no one person is an island and we must all work together to be successful". In a volunteer organization such as this one, this statement could not be truer.

Next Meeting - January 15, 2019

Technical Tour - NTS Santa Clarita

I come from a trade's background where I held several offices (IBEW). Our officer's all held paid positions. The reason that I bring this up is that union officers did not have to split their time and efforts between the job that paid their bills, and the job they loved and accepted for the betterment of our profession.

I never put much thought into it, however I assumed the ASSP would run much the same as the unions do. Boy was I ever wrong! Working with a volunteer group has a whole new set of challenges and I am not giving up. I still hope that I can make some positive changes and move this group forward into the future.

Take a few minutes to answer the following questions as a member of ASSP. Think about your answers and be honest.

- What benefits are you looking for?
- What things do you feel you're not getting out of your membership?
- What would you change if you could?
- What is lacking in the current membership?
- What should be added/offered under our membership?
- What could we be doing better?
- **What skills could you offer our chapter?**

Now, if you've answered the above questions in your mind, we'll move on. Don't give up on me yet. You'll soon see why I wanted you to answer the questions above.

The purpose for asking these questions is to make you think. Are you just paying membership fees to say you are a member of a professional organization? Just trying to catch a couple of points to maintain your credentials? It's important to me that everyone benefit from their membership. Some members may have forgotten what benefits are available, while others may not even know what benefits are out there?

If we evaluated answers to questions above, many of the responses would be basically the same. I've reviewed past surveys and comments provided by members throughout the past two years. Many have the same responses to the survey questions (Change the meeting time or location, not enough time to network, bad set-up, bad food,). Some want more technical information, some want more chapter and society information. As we all know you can't make everyone happy when you have a group of people. It's my goal to try to find a way to make the majority of our members happy or satisfied. I want our members to be motivated, excited, and active in our chapter and in our profession. Each of you give something to our membership. You should share your skills, knowledge and tools with your fellow peers.

Sharing makes all members better, stronger not to mention satisfying to the person sharing by knowing they have helped another professional grow. “Pay it forward”.

Now back to the available benefits of your membership. Think back to your answers to the questions above. You might be surprised to learn that some of the things you hoped to gain from membership are in fact available. Just by simply spending a little time on the ASSP and Chapter’s websites. There are many tools and resources available to members. The Society has been working hard to revamp the websites and provide resources the members ask for. Much work has been done to make the site easier to navigate and locate the information members need. I’ve tried to update our chapter’s website several times per month with new information and resources. *(I don’t want our website to become “Maddie’s blog”, so anyone who has something share worthy or industry news please send to me and I’ll be happy to get it on our website or in the newsletter).*

ASSP has something for everyone in Occupational Safety and Health. We offer many ways to grow personally and professionally.

- Educational Opportunities
- Career Advancement
- Leadership
- Communities (practice specialties)
- Advancement in your career: Get published, be a presenter, be an instructor
- Run for an office
- Volunteer at the Chapter level or Society level.
- Networking in person or online.
- Join a committee
- Volunteer.

The ASSP is a completely Volunteer run organization. In order to make it work, volunteers are a necessity. The more volunteers, the better organization we become. We each bring something different to the table. It could be through our area of professional focus, our education, our life experiences or just ones way of thinking. Together we can solve any issue, find solutions to any problem and grow our respected profession.

In closing, I will do my part to help our chapter and profession as best I can, but I can’t do it alone. I’m asking you to share your strengths, your weaknesses, and your successes with our chapter. Together we all win. Get involved, give a little of yourself. ***You will only get out of***

it what you put into it! Don't just take of membership, give back to membership as others before you.

Thank you for taking the time. Feel free to contact me anytime with suggestions, recommendations, concerns or comments. Get involved with your chapter. Give back to the profession. "Tis the season for giving"!

Maddie Vaughan,
Valley Coastal President

VCASSP Technical Tour - January 15, 2019 @ 11:30 a.m.

Visit National Technical Services for a tour of the facility and an overview of the safety program and challenges.

*The Proving Grounds for Aerospace and Commercial Components
From small component level testing to massive complex system simulation, NTS Santa Clarita meets the most extreme testing challenges for military and aerospace projects and programs. The testing, verification and evaluation processes to reduce cycle time and bring their products to market faster.*

Spanning more than 150 acres, NTS Santa Clarita is one of the largest test facilities in the U.S. There's nothing small about our capabilities either:

- *50-foot diameter centrifuge with more than 200 slip ring channels - 5000 cubic foot acoustic chamber.*
- *1500 cubic foot space simulation chamber -Fuel Component Testing site – to develop and qualify fuel line parts*

Location

*National Technical Services
20970 Centre Pointe Parkway
Santa Clarita, CA 91350*

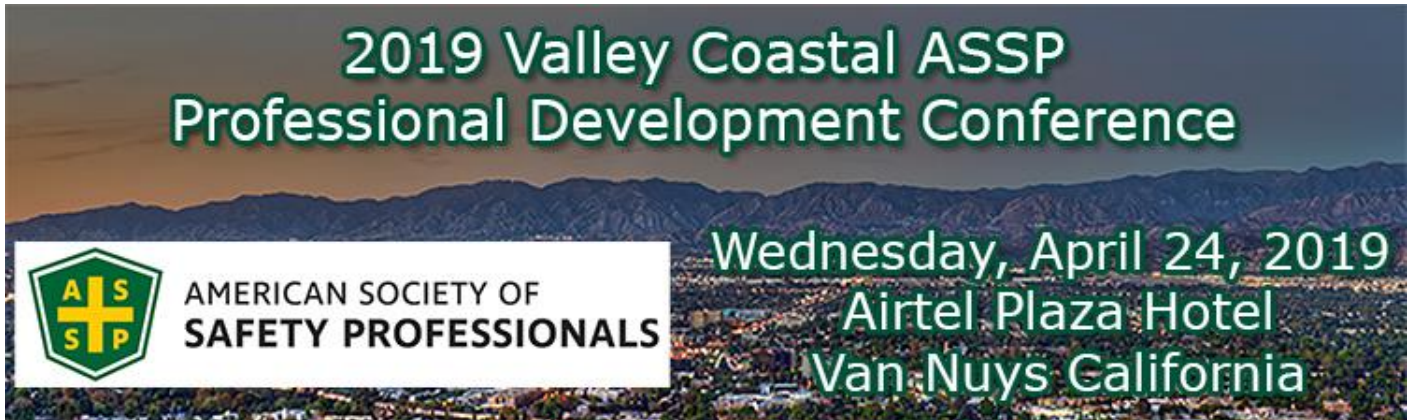
Note take the drive along the right side of the front building to the facility at the top of the hill and check-in at the reception counter

Meeting Dues \$25 includes lunch

RSVP: president@valleycoastal.assp.org

Note: We are seeking a new meeting spot, if you have suggestions or recommendations please reach out to Maddie.





For More Information: <https://www.valleycoastalpdc.com/main.sc>

The 2019 Valley Coastal ASSP PDC will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at The Airtel Plaza Hotel located at 7277 Valjean Avenue, in Van Nuys California. The event runs from 8:30am - 4:00pm, with the opening keynote beginning at 8:30am. Breakfast and lunch were included for all in attendance.

CEUs - Attendees will receive 0.5* Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Credits for attending the PDC (*pending approval).

Call For Speakers - The 2019 PDC is looking for Presenters for our event.

We are currently accepting applications - download a PDF application - [Click Here](#).

To view a PDF of all Sponsorship Opportunities - [Click Here](#)

To register by mail or fax, download a PDF Registration Form - [Click Here](#)

Group Discounts - Additional discounts are available for Groups of 4+ attendees, Save \$100, e-mail pdc@vcpdc.com for more details.

If you need immediate assistance, you can contact Erika May at 661-472-6591 or e-mail us at pdc@vcpdc.com.

2019 Seminarfest



January 24-31, 2019
Las Vegas, NV

Seminarfest is a one-of-a-kind educational event that allows you to spend an entire week immersed in a wide variety of **safety related coursework**, all in one location - reducing frequent, costly and time-consuming travel the rest of the year.

The **tiered pricing structure** is designed to fit all budgets. Register early to get the best value.

[Click Here for More Information or to Register!](#)

Newsroom

OSHA Issues Final Rule on Crane Operator Certification Requirements

OSHA has published a final rule that clarifies certification requirements for crane operators, and maintains the employer's duty to ensure that crane operators can safely operate the equipment. For more information, click here: <https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/2018/11/08/osha-issues-final-rule-on-crane-operator-certification-requirements>

OSHA Reveals Top 10 Violations for 2018

OSHA has announced the preliminary Top 10 Most frequently cited workplace safety violations for fiscal year 2018. For more information, click here: <https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/2018/10/24/osha-reveals-top-10-violations-for-2018>

ASSP Introduces New Safety Podcast

ASSP launched a biweekly Safety Standards and Tech Pub Podcast to help occupational safety and health professionals stay informed of industry consensus standards and technical publications. For more information, click here: <https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/2018/11/28/assp-introduces-new-safety-podcast>

Small construction contractors see increase in fatalities

In its most recent quarterly data report, the Center for Construction Research and Training found that from 2008 to 2016, small construction contractors saw a 57 percent increase in fatal injuries. For more information, click here: <https://www.assp.org/news-and-articles/2018/11/14/small-construction-contractors-see-increase-in-fatalities>

For up to date news and industry relevant information, visit ASSP's Newsrooms located at www.assp.org/news

On Demand Education - Ready to be viewed on ASSP's website!

Just Click Here: <https://learn.assp.org/on-demand-education>

Safety Management System Palooza!

An ASSP Virtual Symposium on Selecting, Implementing, and Assessing Safety Management Systems

Shifting Paradigm:

Systems Thinking About Human Error

Safety Consultants:

Business Skills for Internal and External Consultants

Eliminating the Hazards

A virtual symposium on Hazard Identification and Controls

Going Green: Marijuana in the Workplace

With marijuana lawful for medicinal or recreational purposes in 25 states, it's likely that your workforce may be going green without you even knowing. A comprehensive and fun discussion of marijuana and how it impacts your workplace, including the use of medical marijuana, drug testing methods, legal cases, and employment policies.

Additional Learning Opportunities Can Be Found on the VCASSP Website:
<https://valleycoastal.assp.org/event/>

Member Spotlight

I would like to introduce a new section of information for our members. As we all know, receiving awards, acknowledgements and accolades bring professional credibility and sometimes more \$\$\$ for safety professionals. This is one of the reasons I decided to try something new. I'm hoping it also helps us to get to know other members and what their specialty or area of industry focus is. The new section is called "MEMBER SPOLIGHT."



Tom Alleeson

Environmental, Health and Safety Trainer

Tom's early career experience included serving 2 years in the United States Army as a jet helicopter mechanic and working for more than 25 years at AT&T in various safety and supervision titles including Senior Lineman, Supervisor, and Contract Administrator. After retiring from AT&T Tom continued to serve in various safety and training capacities for prominent Communication Companies as Project Manager, Superintendent and Safety Director. Tom is currently the Owner and Trainer for TWA Safety LLC providing Federal & Cal/OSHA 10/30 hr. training, Confined Spaces Awareness, Traffic Control and Flagging, First Aid, and various other safety training throughout Southern California. Hobbies include, traveling, sailing, and studying foreign language including, Spanish, French and Italian.

Credentials

Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST)
Federal & Cal/OSHA Authorized Construction Trainer

Education

A.S. Agriculture Science, L.A. Pierce College, Woodland Hills, CA.
Continuing education, University of California San Diego, CA.

Employment History

Safety Trainer TWA Safety LLC 2016-present
Safety Director /Superintendent Irish Communication Company 2005-2015
Project Manager Bouchard Communications 1991-2005

Interested in Presenting?

Valley Coastal ASSP invites those interested in presenting at one of its Professional Development Meetings to submit a proposal to Programs@valleycoastal.assp.org. Valley Coastal ASSP 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

