



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

The Safety Net

Southern Nevada Chapter Newsletter



March/April 2008

www.asselv.org

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The American Society
of Safety Engineers

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Many years ago when I moved to Las Vegas from Virginia to begin my career with the Federal government as safety and environmental manager for a research laboratory, the first training I was sent to by my new employer was a two week course at the OSHA Institute in Des Plaines, IL. It was during the month of March and the weather in the Chicago area was still wintry with grey skies and snow flurries for most of my visit. One particular day however was sunny and the temperature at noon climbed into the low sixties, suggesting the promise of the coming spring. During the lunch break I wandered up Oakton Street to enjoy the warmth of the sun and I stumbled across the buildings for two organizations which at the time I knew absolutely nothing about. They were the headquarters buildings of the American Society of Safety Engineers and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. Since both had "Safety" in their names and I knew at the time that I was dedicating my working life and career to occupational safety, I went in to each one to find out more about them. Both of course are basically office buildings and unless you are there to meet someone for particular business there's not a lot to see or do. I was able to collect some literature from the receptionists at each and then I was on my way back to class. I had no way of knowing then that both of these organizations would have profound impact on my professional life and that in the case of the ASSE headquarters, I would return several times.

Once back in Las Vegas over the next several months I met several ASSE members and I was introduced to the ASSE Southern Nevada Chapter. I joined ASSE and began attending chapter meetings. As my career progressed over the years I discovered that the ASSE is the pre-eminent source for professional development and networking available to me. This fact became crystal clear when I attended my first ASSE National Professional Development Conference. It was then that I resolved to become active through volunteer service at both the local chapter and national levels; though not necessarily at the same time. It has been said many times before that what a person can expect to get out of a volunteer organization is directly related to what he or she puts into it. There isn't room in this newsletter for me to describe the many way this has been true for me, but I can tell you that there is room for you to discover that value for yourself by committing to some aspect of our Chapter's operations.

We are now at the point where we need to elect officers for the 2008-2009 Chapter year. There are opportunities for service and leadership that will enable you to

grow as a safety professional and which will open doors to sources of value in ASSE that are only available through service.

As a result of my service to ASSE, whenever I am in the Chicago area I know that I can take a stroll up Oakton Street and drop by the ASSE headquarter building and instead of finding nothing to do, I will be welcomed in as a friend and colleague who has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with several people within in efforts to advance the professional practice of occupational safety in the world. I can only imagine how things might have been different if it had rained on that sunny day in Des Plaines so many years ago. —Doug Sharp, CSP

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

March 12, 2008— ASSE Membership Meeting
From 7:00 am—9:00 am. Location: Molasky Corporate Building, 100 City Parkway.

Go to <http://www.asselv.org> for map and directions.

CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Nominations of candidates for elected officer positions for the 2008-2008 Chapter year are now open. Organizations like ASSE are dependent on volunteers. Member involvement as chapter officers is vital to the success of the chapter. Now is your chance to get involved and make a difference.

Please download a one-page nomination form from our web site and submit it to Elections and Nomination Chairperson as soon as possible at: http://www.asselv.org/pdfs/spy_nomination_form.pdf

REQUEST FOR SPY NOMINATIONS

Do you know a Southern Nevada Chapter member who has shown outstanding service or leadership in the safety profession, ASSE, or the Southern Nevada Chapter? You can nominate this person for the 2007-2008 chapter Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) award. It's very easy to do, but the deadline for nominations is the end of March, 2008. Please download a one-page nomination form from our web site and submit it to Chapter President as soon as possible at: http://www.asselv.org/pdfs/spy_nomination_form.pdf



SOCIETY NEWS

ASSE CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Membership in the American Society of Safety Engineers evokes a duty to serve and protect people, property and the environment. This duty is to be exercised with integrity, honor and dignity. Members are accountable for following the Code of Professional Conduct.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Protect people, property and the environment through the application of state-of-the-art knowledge. Serve the public, employees, employers, clients and the Society with fidelity, honesty and impartiality. Achieve and maintain competency in the practice of the profession. Avoid conflicts of interest and compromise of professional conduct. Maintain confidentiality of privileged information.

FUNDAMENTAL CANONS

In the fulfillment of my duties as a safety professional and as a member of the Society, I shall:

1. Inform the public, employers, employees, clients and appropriate authorities when professional judgment indicates that there is an unacceptable level of risk.
2. Improve knowledge and skills through training, education and networking.
3. Perform professional services only in the area of competence.
4. Issue public statements in a truthful manner, and only within the parameters of authority granted.
5. Serve as an agent and trustee, avoiding any appearance of conflict of interest.
6. Assure equal opportunity to all.

- Approved by House of Delegates June 9, 2002

ASSE STRATEGIC PLAN

VISION

ASSE shall be a global champion of the safety, health and environmental professional, a global leader of the profession and a premier resource for those engaged in protecting people, property and the environment.

MISSION

ASSE is a global member-driven association providing representation, promotion and support for those engaged in the profession and/or the practice of safety, health and environment in their efforts to protect people, property and the environment.

VALUES

The association values the protection of people, property, the environment, and the profession. It maintains the highest level of professional ethics, mutual trust, and treats all with dignity and respect. The association provides the highest quality service for members and customers while making responsible use of resources.

GOALS

1. Develop and promote standards of professional practice.
2. Advocate positions on regulations and legislation, which affect the practice of the profession or the activities of the Society.
3. Promote safety, health and environmental (SH&E) issues, the SH&E profession and its positive effects.
4. Establish and maintain an effective and efficient organization for the achievement of the Society's mission.
5. Gather, encourage and participate in development of the body of knowledge relevant to the profession.
6. Develop and maintain mechanisms to recruit, retain and nurture the membership.
7. Deliver the highest quality professional development opportunities to enhance competence and position practitioners for success by understanding the needs of the profession, delivering the highest quality programs that meet those needs and recognizing the achievement of participants in the programs.
8. Establish and maintain a structured program to recruit, retain and nurture Student members.

HAVE A TECHNICAL QUESTION...ASK ASSE

Send ASSE your technical questions regarding Occupational Safety and Health issues. They will post selected questions and answers to the website in the future. Make sure to include your name and email address with your question. Go to: <http://www.asse.org/practicespecialties/askasse.php>



Join us on June 9-12, 2008, at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada for the annual ASSE's 2008 Professional Development Conference & Expo. This years PDC brings a wide variety of perspectives to the attendees through specialized sessions identified by experience levels to help you better navigate the conference. The Levels are:

- Two to five years of experience are identified as basic (B).
- Six to ten years of experience are identified as intermediate (I).
- Ten years plus experience are identified as advanced (A).
- Executive level sessions are identified as executive (E).

For more information and how to register please visit: <http://www.asse.org/education/pdc/>



**American Society
of Safety Engineers**

*Protecting people, property,
and the environment since 1911*

REGULATORY NEWS

PPE LEGISLATION FROM OSHA

This final rule became effective on February 13, 2008. The final rule must be implemented by May 15, 2008.

According to OSHA, under the final rule, all PPE, with a few exceptions, will be provided to employees at no cost. The few exceptions include ordinary safety-toed footwear and ordinary prescription safety eyewear the employer allows to be worn off the job site, logging boots, and ordinary clothing and weather related gear.

Employers also must pay for replacement PPE unless the employee loses or intentionally damages the PPE. OSHA estimates that the final rule, which was published in the Federal Register, will lead to more than 21,000 fewer occupational injuries per year. The standard is available at: <http://www.osha.gov>

LEARN ABOUT TRENCH SAFETY

Explore the NIOSH Trench Safety Awareness training web site to learn why it is important to use appropriate protective systems for excavation. The Web-based training exercise contains material on conducting a safe trenching operation. Topics include the four types of trench collapse, the frequency and cost of trench collapses, trench soil types, and common trench protective systems. The on-line training is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2006-133D/>

TOPICS, SPEAKERS & SPONSORS WANTED

Ever sit in one of our chapter meetings and wonder where in the heck did they come up with that topic? **We need your input for the Spring schedule.** What topics would you like to hear about? What subjects trip your safety trigger? Be on the lookout at local seminars for good speakers with good material, or a company who might want to sponsor a meeting. If you'd like to present a topic, step up to the plate for consideration. If you have suggestions or would like more information, please contact a chapter officer.

**PROTECTING PEOPLE, PROPERTY,
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SINCE 1911.**

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Check our Education page on the SNC website for a listing of upcoming safety educational and training opportunities go to: <http://www.asselv.org>

Also, if you know about a training opportunity in the Las Vegas area and want to post it, please contact the webmaster at: steven.ross@lvvwd.com

SAFETY JOBS

Check the jobs page on the SNC website for a listing of current job openings, post a job or resumes in Las Vegas and a broad at: <http://www.asselv/jobs/>

THE FUNNY SIDE



If you have news, an article, an accomplishment that you would like added to the newsletter, please contact Steven Ross, our Newsletter Editor at steven.ross@lvvwd.com

Disclaimer: The Southern Nevada Chapter, ASSE is not responsible for the accuracy of information posted in the newsletter or email postings if that information has been received from outside sources. Nor do we, as the Chapter, endorse or sponsor the activities/events that are posted via this medium, except where noted. We attempt to provide information relevant to the safety profession for our members as a chapter activity and service. Additionally, Southern Nevada Chapter member e-mail addresses on this newsletter are considered protected information for Chapter or National ASSE use only.