



News & Views

*Always Seeking Safety Excellence
through
Growth, Challenge & Change
1939-2005*



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

General Chapter Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2005
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Brady's Landing
8505 Cypress, Houston

**Topic: ASSE Opportunities for
Public Service**

Speaker: Rixio Medina

Construction Division Meeting

Friday, March 18th - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Brady's Landing - 8505 Cypress, Houston
Topic: TBA

North Section Meeting

Monday, March 7th - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn North - I-45 & 1960
Speaker: Mike Narvaez & Reggie Mason
Topic: Light Rail Safety Concerns

West Section Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th - 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
Cameron Headquarters
Topic: TBA

Rixio Medina

Rixio Medina is the VP of Health, Safety, Security of Assets & Environmental Protection for CITGO Petroleum Corporation. He has over 25 year of experience in the petroleum, refining, and petrochemical industries with CITGO, Mobil Oil Corporation and Petroleos de Venezuela. Prior to his current position, Rixio was appointed by President Bush to serve as a Board Member on the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

He received a MS in Industrial Security from Central Missouri State University (1982) and a BS in Engineering Technology-Fire Protection and Safety (1977) from Oklahoma State University. Rixio is a Certified Safety Professional in Comprehensive Practice and a Certified Protection Professional, Board Certified in Security Management.

Rixio has served on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) and as their Vice President for the Council on Professional Affairs. Rixio served two terms as safety representative on the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH), which advises the Secretaries of Labor and Health and Human Services on occupational safety and health issues.

ASSE Fellow

The Gulf Coast Chapter has received word that Mark Hansen has been selected to receive the designation of ASSE Fellow. The designation is the society's highest honor to those individuals who have demonstrated exemplary service to the safety profession and ASSE. Mark will be honored at this year's Professional Development Conference in New Orleans.

**On behalf of the Gulf Coast
Chapter
Congratulations Mark!**



Avoid the IRS

GO PLAY GOLF on TAX DAY!!!



The 2005 ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter Benefit Golf Tournament has been set for April 15th at Eagle Point Golf Course in Mont Belvieu, Texas.

The format is a four person scramble so anyone of any skill level can play. The cost is \$400 per team for early registration or \$500 after April 4th.

We are also asking for volunteers to drive a mulligan cart and sell chances at separate hole-in-one prizes. We have room for 25 teams this year, so please help get the word out.

If you can't play help the scholarship program and sponsor the event. If you have never played Eagle Point, you will not be disappointed.

For more information contact Jody Jackson, Golf Tournament Chair at (281) 884-0355 or e-mail at jjackson@iterm.com. See you in April!!!

Nominations

Its time again for nominations for the executive committee of the Gulf Coast Chapter. Positions include:

- President
- Vice President of Membership Services.
- Vice President of Communications
- Treasurer
- Secretary

Nominations maybe self nomination or from another member in good standing with the National Society and the Gulf Coast Chapter. All nominations must be sent to Robert Gussman Immediate Past President, Who heads the nominating committee.

You may contact Robert at (713) 625-5617 or at Robert.gussman@bakeroiltools.com

**Nominations must be received by Tuesday,
March 15th**

President's Message – Mike Narvaez, CSP

Time is Money

About a year ago I attended a leadership class given by Carla Rea, ASSE Manager of Chapter Services, regarding generation synergy. The class addressed the differences among generations in the workforce and how they interact. For you anxious empty nesters, Carla even addressed why your offspring are okay with living at home after college graduation. Call me with your questions, but the answers won't come cheap. ☺

Even more profound was the discussion that revolved around the idea that time has become today's currency. After all, most students who are entering the workforce have grown up in an internet friendly environment that has spawned telecommuting, distance learning and instant messaging. More and more individuals are leaving traditional office environments to pursue working from home. Doing things when they want to do them and not being confined to the 9 to 5 workday or structured classroom setting is the call of the new professional.

In speaking with my own Human Resource department they are looking into ways to address this new workforce. One HR professional quoted an expert in her field as stating that some companies will not survive the next decade if they don't change their definition of a traditional workday. I have spoken to several professionals who seem to agree that people's time and how they spend it is becoming a greater commodity than large salaries and benefit packages.

Being a younger professional I certainly embrace the change, but know that there is a lot of resistance to this ideology. My colleague in HR believes that private industry has brought some of this on themselves by mass layoffs, elimination of benefits, and corporate corruption. I like to think that most professionals have determined that watching their children play baseball is more important than working on the weekend to impress the boss. Personally, I let my 11:30 p.m. e-mails demonstrate that I am willing to put in the extra hours, after my future All-American pitcher is fast asleep.



2nd Annual Youth Rules! Rally & Job Fair
Saturday, April 2, 2005
9 am – 2 pm

George R. Brown Convention Center, Exhibit Hall G

What is YouthRules!? YouthRules! is a national initiative launched by the Department of Labor in May 2002 to increase public awareness of Federal and State rules concerning young workers. Through the YouthRules! Initiative the DOL and its partners seek to promote positive and safe work experiences that help prepare young workers to enter the 21st century workforce. YouthRules! is an innovative approach to bring teens, parents, educators, employers, government, unions and advocacy groups together to ensure young workers have a safe and rewarding work experiences.

What is the YouthRules! Rally and Job Fair? As part of this national initiative, a YouthRules! rally and job fair is being sponsored for minors 14 to 24 years old seeking summer employment or entering the workforce after High School and provides employers an opportunity to reach out to hundreds of potential employees. The YouthRules! Rally also provides an opportunity for students, parents & employers to interact with agencies such as the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to learn more about laws regarding hiring of minors.

Who is sponsoring this event? The YouthRules! Rally is a collaboration between the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Gulf Coast Chapter, the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the City of Houston, and The WorkSource Center. The goal is to provide a means for youth workers to gain information on child labor and safety & health laws and obtain age appropriate summer employment or post high school employment.

Can I be a sponsor? Yes you can! Corporate sponsors will be recognized at the event and in all publicity after we receive the donation. Contact Cindy Lewis at youthrules2005@yahoo.com or (713) 397-2030 for more information on sponsorship opportunities.

How many prospective applicants will there be? The first **YouthRules!** Rally and job fair last year brought over 700 eager youths seeking employment to the Greenspoint Mall. This year information will be sent to high schools throughout the greater Houston and surrounding communities in addition to media outlets to reach potentially thousands of potential applicants.

What will the YouthRules! Rally look like? The rally and job fair will consist of a large stage for entertainment such as game shows and interactive events focusing on employment with four break-out areas for information sessions. An employer and exhibitor booth area will be set up for employment seekers to interact with individual employers.

Do you need Volunteers? Yes, we do! Volunteers will be needed from 1 pm – 5 pm Friday, April 1st during set-up and on Saturday, April 2nd from 7 am – 3 pm. Whether you can help for 1 hour or more your help will be greatly appreciated. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact **Cindy Lewis, at (713) 397-2030 or clewis@ev1.net.**

Professional Development

“Celebrating SH&E Success!” Region III Professional Development Conference (PDC) August 6 – 11, 2005 - San Luis Resort & Galveston Convention Center

This year's conference is dedicated to the success that the safety, health and environment professions have had in achieving great contributions to our communities. While we know that there is much work still to do, sometime we need to stop and remember how far we've come! So, come help us celebrate during the PDC and get re-energized. A few conference highlights:

- Student Leadership Conference open to all students enrolled in SH&E programs, Saturday, August 6th at the San Luis Resort. Contact Rebecca Ginsburg, Rebecca.ginsburg@shell.com for more information.
- 5th Annual Region III Golf Tournament benefiting the Delmar Tally Professional Development Grant at the Galveston Municipal Golf Course, Sunday, August 7th, 8 am tee off.
- Technical Tours of the Port of Houston and the METRO light rail simulator.
- 42 technical sessions over 3 days at the Galveston Convention Center.
- Over 60 vendors at the Exhibit Hall with Monday night reception.
- Industrial Hygiene Symposium, Thursday, August 11th, at the San Luis Resort for those just getting into or those who need to brush up on their industrial hygiene skills.

Registration brochures will be sent out mid-April to all ASSE members. If you do not receive the information by May 1st contact Jan Little, J/B Meetings at (713) 532-0044 to get a copy of the brochure. Booth space and sponsorships still available!

ASP/CSP Exam Preparation Workshops Presented by Langlois, Weigand & Associates

April 25-27/28-30, 2005
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. each day

ASP Safety Fundamentals Prep Workshop - **\$550**
Monday-Wednesday, November 15-17, 2004

CSP Comprehensive Exam Prep Workshop - **\$600**
Thursday-Saturday, November 18-20, 2004

All classes will be conducted at the Houston Area Contractor Safety Council (1301 W. 13th Street, Deer Park, Texas). Registration is limited to the first 25 students for each workshop. A TI-36X scientific calculator is included in the cost of the course. Those interested in registering should contact: Bob Gaither, ASP/CSP Review Chair at gaithr1@chevrontexaco.com or 713.954.6142 no later than April 21, 2005.



Society of Petroleum Engineers
Gulf Coast Section

SPE – Gulf Coast Section Safety & Environment Study Group Luncheon Presentation

Topic: Recovery of Oil from Oil Based Mud Drilled Cuttings, Overview of processes and technology

Speaker: Simon Seaton, Baroid/Halliburton

Location: Westchase Hilton, 9999 Westheimer

Date & Time: 16 March 2005, 11:00 -13:00

Register at: www.spegcs.org

SPE Member: 30\$ (before 03/14/2005 11:30 am)

Non-member: 35\$ (walk-in price as well)

Event Contact: Gaurav Sharma, 713-260-8459

Chapter Activities

Safety Professional of the Year Nominations!

Nominations are now being accepted for the Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award! If you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the field of safety then obtain a form by contacting John Kerker, VP of Membership Services at 281-388-0992 or e-mail at john.kerker@superiorenergy.com. Forms will also be available at the general chapter meetings through March. The deadline for nominations is March 15th.

Student Leadership Conference

Join us in Galveston, Texas for the first ASSE Region III Student Leadership Conference (SLC) on Saturday, August 6, 2005 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. This conference is a great opportunity for students to meet with other students and industry professionals to gain insight into working in the fields of Safety, Health, Environmental, and Security. The SLC will include many activities and sessions designed to help you begin your career informed and energized. The conference will be held at the San Luis Resort & Conference Center on the sea wall of the Gulf of Mexico. Overnight lodging on Friday & Saturday, August 5-6 will be provided if you are registered by May 31, 2005. Food and beverages will be provided during the Student Leadership Conference. The only requirement is to arrange for your own transportation to Galveston. After the student conference, stick around for the Region III Professional Development Conference Sunday - Wednesday (additional registration fee does apply - some scholarships available). If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Rebecca Ginsburg at 713-546-6018 or Rebecca.Ginsburg@shell.com, or Steve Gray at 214-869-3507 or sgray@mccmail.com.

Awards & Honors Vendor Sponsorship!

The Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers' annual Officer Induction / Awards & Honors ceremony will take place June 25, 2005

This ceremony creates an exceptional sponsorship opportunity for vendors in the Gulf Coast area. We are seeking sponsors who can make monetary contributions to help offset the cost of the event. Benefits of sponsorship include:

- ❖ Recognition during the ceremony and in the ceremony's program;
- ❖ Your company's logo will be displayed on signs and banners at the event's entrance.

For contributions of \$500 and greater, companies will also receive the following:

- ❖ Advertisement on the Gulf Coast Chapter website (www.assegulfcoast.org)*;
- ❖ Business card advertisement in the Chapter newsletter, *News & Views**.

* *Thru June 2006*

The free advertisement in our *News & Views* periodical includes 10 issues reaching approximately 1500 safety professionals in the Gulf Coast Area per month! Each ad in *News & Views* will include a banner recognizing sponsorship of the 2004 Awards & Honors Banquet. Therefore, you can demonstrate your support of the Gulf Coast Chapter and stretch your advertising budget at the same time while making invaluable contacts in the Gulf Coast area.

Sponsorship checks should be made out to the Gulf Coast Chapter and can be sent to our P.O. Box or given to any of the Executive Committee member. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Narvaez at 713.652.7939 or via e-mail at mn05@ridemetro.org

We look forward to seeing your company name in our newsletter and on our website!

Chapter Activities (cont.)

SCIENCE ENGINEERING FAIR OF HOUSTON

Over 1,000 of the Houston area's most talented junior and senior high school students will be participating in the 45th annual Science Engineering Fair of Houston to be held March 17 - 19, 2005 at the Brown Convention Center (downtown Houston) in Hall C.

Each of the student's exhibits must be checked for conformance to established safety rules and regulations - nothing complicated (You will receive a copy of the rules upon request.). Your knowledge and expertise are needed to help accomplish this public service task.

If you are able to spend an hour, or longer, of your time in this rewarding project - beginning 4 PM, or later, on Thursday, March 17, 2005, and ending around 8 PM, please contact Walter Chmielewski by email, by phone, or mail/fax at:

Walter Chmielewski

17303 Broken Back Dr.
Crosby, TX 77532-4026
seagulir@earthlink.net
281-328-5139

FAX: 281-328-5139 (picks up after 4th ring or enter *51 to access fax when phone rings)



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DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN-UP TODAY!

2005 Houston Course Schedule

3/7 -3/10	OSHA 510 Construction 30 Hour @ ABC Houston Class Number OS-510-173
3/28-4/1	OSHA 500 Construction Trainer @ TAS Concrete Class Number OS-500-262
6/6 -6/9	OSHA 511 General Industry 30 Hour @ TBD Class Number OS-511-35
6/20-6/24	OSHA 501 General Industry Trainer @ HASC Class Number OS-501-393

EXCAVATION SAFETY AUDIO CONFERENCE

Addressing safety guidelines to prevent fatalities and injuries during excavation and trench work, ASSE will be host to a Technical Audio Conference on construction safety March 24, 2005 from 11 AM - 12:30 PM CST for anyone who would like to participate. The conference call and question and answer session will focus on the A10.12-1998 (R2005) standard *Safety Requirements for Excavation*, which was recently reaffirmed in January by ANSI.

The A10.12 standard provides safety requirements for protecting workers from hazardous conditions during excavation and trench work. In addition to addressing the responsibilities of owners, contractors, subcontractors and competent excavation personnel, the standard covers fall protection, emergency equipment, inspections of work sites, and means of egress for excavation and trenching work. The standard provides requirements for protective systems, which include the design of trench boxes, sloping and benching systems, and safety requirements for materials, equipment, and installation of support systems. The appendices provide additional information and diagrams on soil classification, sloping and benching, timber shoring for trench excavations, alternative worker protection systems and aluminum hydraulic shoring for trenches.

The Audio Conference will feature A10.12 Subgroup Chair Jack Mickle, Ph.D., P.E., and ASSE members Jim E. Lapping, P.E., CSP, and Mike Hayslip, P.E., CSP, who both serve on the A10.12 Subgroup. The speakers will discuss the sections of the excavation standard and how the standard can be implemented at a work site. Audio Conference registrants will receive a copy of the A10.12-1998 (R2005) standard, a PowerPoint presentation, articles on excavation safety, and have a chance to e-mail questions to the speakers during the call. Registrants will also receive an audio compact disc copy of the presentation afterwards. For more information on the A10.12 standard and the Audio Conference contact ASSE Customer Service at 847-699-2929 or visit www.asse.org.

Awards & Honors Banquet Sponsors

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Thanks a Million!!

Our highly successful Awards and Honors Banquet would not be a reality without the continued support of local vendors. The ASSE GCC Executive Committee would like to sincerely thank these vendors for their support of chapter activities.

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